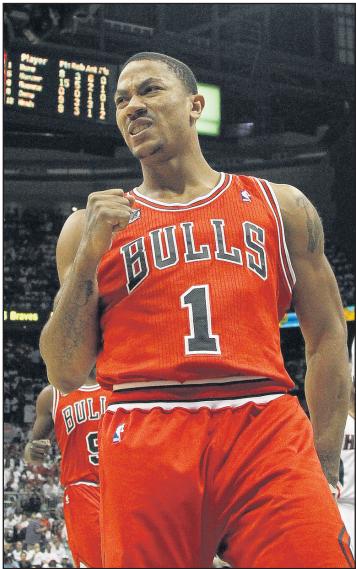


SPORTS NEWS

NO BULL



Derrick Rose

ATLANTA (AP)—Derrick Rose simply had to run the show. The MVP had plenty of help in this one, and the Chicago Bulls are off to the Eastern Conference finals for the first time since M.J. was at the controls.

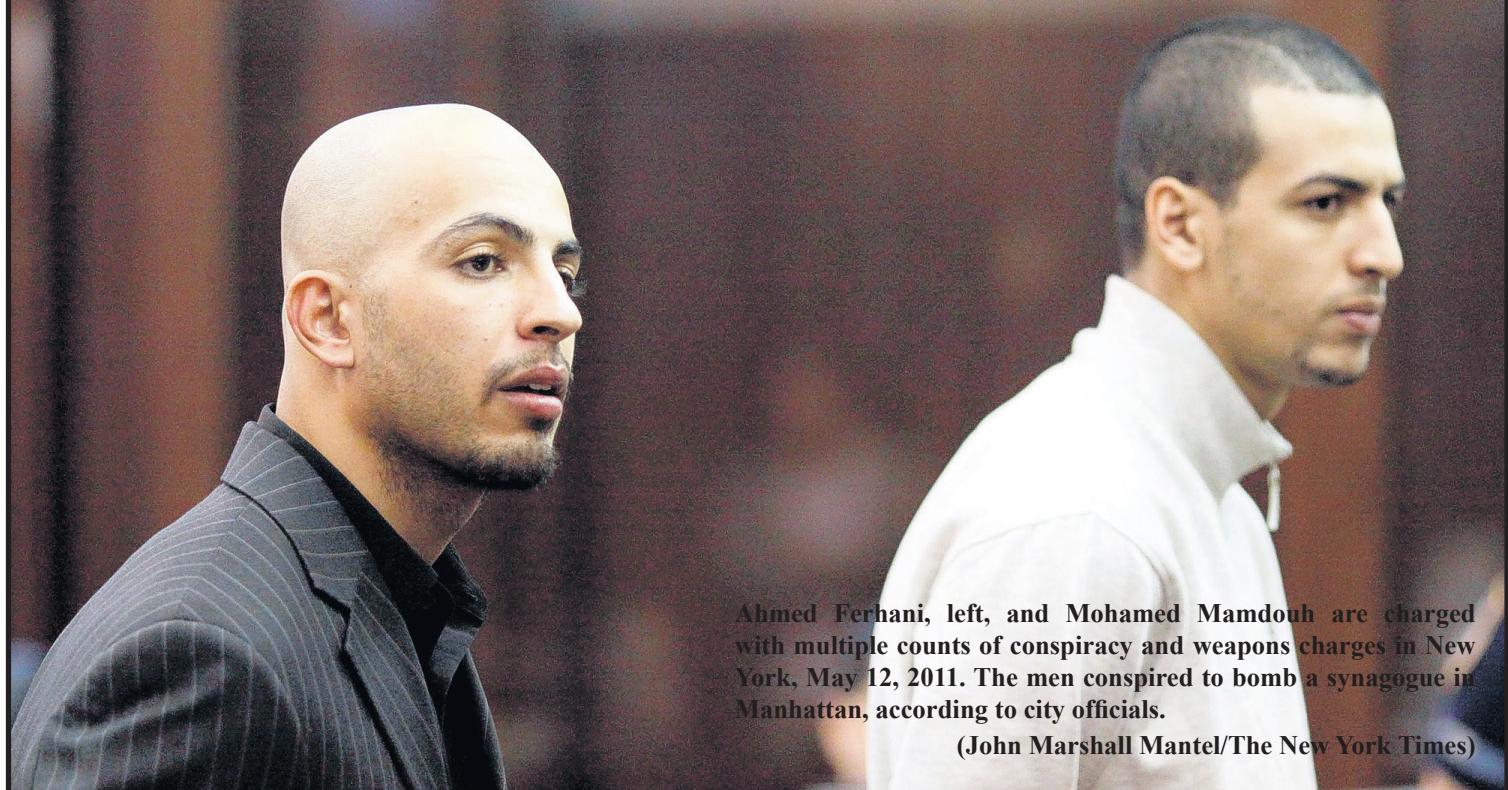
Carlos Boozer scored 23 points and Rose doled out 12 assists, pushing Chicago out to a big lead in the first half that carried the Bulls past Atlanta 93-73 in the Eastern Conference semifinals Thursday night. They finished off the Hawks in six games.

Chicago advanced to its first conference final since 1998, when Michael Jordan and Scottie Pippen were on their way to a second three-peat. The Bulls fell on hard times after that glorious era, including three straight 60-loss seasons, but they have put together a deep, talented team that won more games than anyone during the regular season.

Yep, even more than the ballyhooed Miami Heat, whose Big Three are waiting in the next round, with a spot in the NBA Final on the line. Game 1 is Sunday in Chicago.

Rose had been averaging nearly 30 points a game in the playoffs. No need for heroics in this one; he took just 14 shots, his lowest of the post-season, and wound up with his second-fewest points. □

NYC TERROR PLOT



Ahmed Ferhani, left, and Mohamed Mamdouh are charged with multiple counts of conspiracy and weapons charges in New York, May 12, 2011. The men conspired to bomb a synagogue in Manhattan, according to city officials.

(John Marshall Mantel/The New York Times)

By W. RASHBAUM and A. BAKER

© 2011 New York Times

NEW YORK — The 26-year-old man from Queens had discussed growing a beard and the side curls of a Hasidic Jew, the police commissioner said, a disguise that he apparently hoped would enable him to attack a synagogue in Manhattan “and take out the whole entire building.” His ambitions did not end there. The man, a native of Algeria, also expressed an interest in blowing up the Empire State Building, the commissioner said.

He was not a member of a terrorist group like al-Qaida, the commissioner said. In-

deed, his father said, he once sold cosmetics at Saks Fifth Avenue and was now trying to be a fashion model.

Yet driven by a hatred of Jews and a belief that Muslims are mistreated the world over, the man, Ahmed Ferhani, began piecing together a plan to commit terrorism, the authorities said Thursday, leading to his arrest after he and an accomplice bought weapons in a police undercover operation.

Ferhani and a 20-year-old naturalized U.S. citizen from Morocco were charged Thursday in a terrorism case that is remarkable not only for the would-be mod-

el-actor the authorities have identified as its central player but also for the unusual way the case was brought.

The charges were announced at a City Hall news conference with arrest photos on display, featuring comments from Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg; the police commissioner, Raymond W. Kelly; and the Manhattan district attorney, Cyrus R. Vance Jr. The case was presented in State Supreme Court, with no involvement from the FBI or the U.S. attorney’s office, typically the central players in such investigations and prosecutions.

Continued on Page 2

U.S. seeks to continue war in Libya



Rebel fighters at the entrance of the military side of the Misrata airport in Libya.

By C. SAVAGE and

T. SHANKER

© 2011 New York Times

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama and his legal advisers are deliberating about how the U.S. military may lawfully continue participating in NATO’s bombing campaign in Libya after next week, when the air war will reach a legal deadline for terminating combat operations that have not been authorized by Congress. Under the War Powers Resolution of 1973,

a president must terminate such operations 60 days after he has formally notified lawmakers about the introduction of armed forces into actual or imminent hostilities. The Libya campaign will reach that mark May 20. Though congressional leaders have shown little interest in enforcing the resolution, James Steinberg, the deputy secretary of state, was asked Thursday about the deadline at a Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearing.

Continued on Next Page

al-Qaida vacuum

By SCOTT SHANE,
© 2011 New York Times

WASHINGTON — When al-Qaida's online propaganda arm sought to rally supporters this week after the killing of Osama bin Laden, it did not hint that the network had a major terrorist plot in the works.

Instead, it proposed do-it-yourself terrorism, urging militants around the world to come up with their own attacks, however modest.

"We say to every mujahid Muslim, if there is an opportunity, do not waste it," said the statement Monday from Al Fajr Media Center, the terror network's online voice. "Do not consult anyone about killing Americans or destroying their economy."

The message praised bin Laden for his "long-term planning and vision," but proposed exactly the opposite: "We also incite you to carry out acts of individual terrorism with significant results, which only require basic preparation."

The message implicitly acknowledged that the demise of al-Qaida's founder leaves its core in a weakened position.

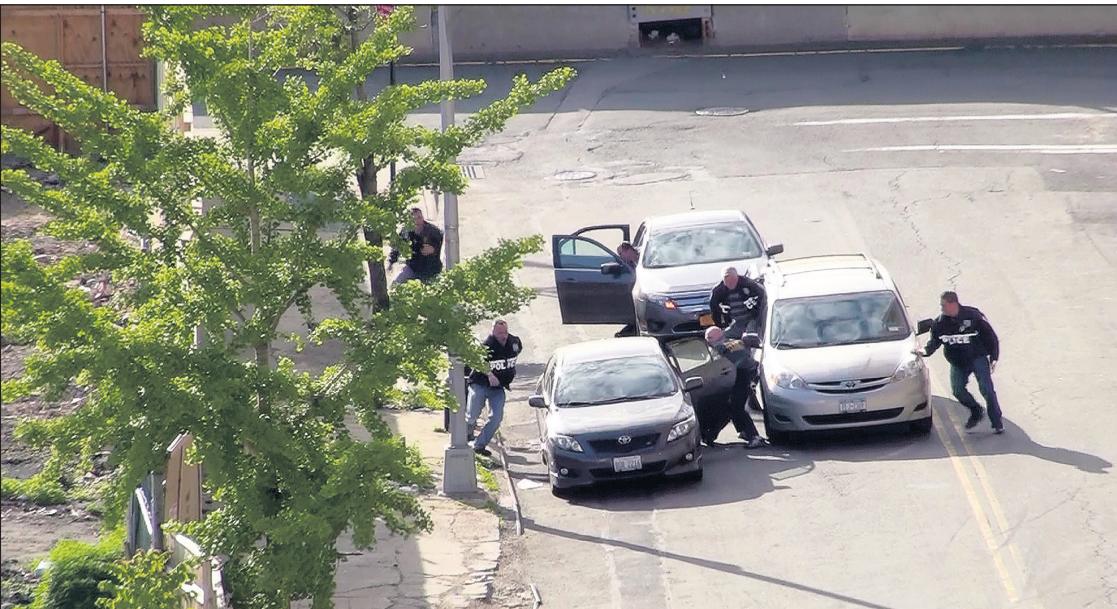
Even before bin Laden's death, the rise of affiliates, notably al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula in Yemen, had shifted attention and energy away from the parent organization in Pakistan.

Now, with a handful of flawed or little-known candidates ready to succeed bin Laden, but no one with his status and charisma, the future of the network's old hub is uncertain.

Some U.S. intelligence analysts believe that the fact that more than 10 days have passed without the announcement of a successor could be a sign of a power struggle.

"The core is diminished by bin Laden's death – it's a big blow," said Daniel L. Byman, a former Central Intelligence Agency and 9/11 Commission staff member, now at Georgetown University. □

New York City terror plot foiled



New York City police officers move in to arrest Ahmed Ferhani in New York in an undated handout photo. Mohamed Mamdouh was also arrested with Ferhani and authorities said they intended to carry out an attack against a synagogue in New York.

(New York Police Department via The New York Times)

Continued from Front Page

The accusations as detailed by the three officials sounded chilling. Just before Ferhani and his co-defendant, Mohamed Mamdouh, were arrested on Manhattan's West Side on Wednesday evening, they had bought a hand grenade, three semiautomatic pistols and 150 rounds of ammunition. They wanted to kill Jews; they mulled blowing up churches; and shortly before Ferhani was arrested at 58th

Street, he asked an undercover detective, who was posing as a gun dealer, if the man could get him a bullet-resistant vest, a silencer and a police radio. Mamdouh was arrested nearby.

"They conspired and took concrete steps to blow up synagogues and churches to advance those ideological goals and to possess and use illegal firearms and explosives," Vance said at the news conference. "They did it for

jihad, something they referred simply to as the cause, which meant the violence and armed fight against Israel, Jews and other non-Muslims and the West." Kelly said Ferhani, using an expletive, explained he was fed up that Muslims around the world were being treated "like dogs." The two men, who both live in Queens, were charged in a criminal complaint under a state terrorism statute passed after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks



A father and his two sons survey the damage of a destroyed tank turret in downtown Misrata, Libya.

(Bryan Denton/The New York Times)

U.S. SEEKS WAR

Continued from Front Page

He said the administration was examining the military's "role and activities as we move through the next period of time" and would consult Congress about evaluating "what we think we can and can't do." "Mindful of the passage of

time including the end of the two-month period, we are in the process of reviewing our role, and the president will be making decisions going forward in terms of what he sees as appropriate for us to do," Steinberg said.

The administration apparently has no intention of pulling out of the Libya campaign, and Steinberg said that Obama

that Vance said had not been used before in New York City in a terrorism case. Among the charges were second-degree conspiracy as a crime of terrorism, second-degree conspiracy as a hate crime and second-degree criminal possession of a weapon as a crime of terrorism. If convicted of the top count, the men face life in prison without parole. The charges concluded what Kelly said was a seven-month investigation.

Major terrorism cases are generally investigated by the FBI-NYPD Joint Terrorism Task Force, staffed with police detectives and federal agents, and prosecuted by the U.S. attorney's office in federal court. One law enforcement official said the Police Department's Intelligence Division, which investigated the case, had notified the Joint Task Force about it and the group had opted not to get involved. Little clarification was offered at the news conference, where Bloomberg, Kelly and Vance offered explanations for why a case that was presented as a serious terrorism matter had not been brought in federal court. □

was committed "to act consistently with the War Powers Resolution." So the Obama legal team is now trying to come up with a plausible theory for why continued U.S. participation does not violate the law. A variety of Pentagon and military officials said the issue was in the hands of lawyers, not commanders. Several officials described a few of the ideas under consideration.

One concept being discussed is for the United States to halt the use of its Predator drones in attacking targets in Libya and restrict them solely to a role gathering surveillance over targets.

Over recent weeks, the Predators have been the only U.S. weapon actually firing on ground targets, although many aircraft are assisting in refueling, intelligence-gathering and electronic jamming. By ending all strike missions for U.S. forces, the argument then could be made that the

United States was no longer directly engaged in hostilities in Libya but only providing support to NATO allies.

Another idea is for the United States to order a complete – but temporary – halt to all of its efforts in the Libya mission. Some lawyers make the case that, after a complete pause, the United States could rejoin the mission with a new 60-day clock.

Congress passed the War Powers Resolution at the end of the Vietnam War, overriding President Richard M. Nixon's veto. It was intended to reassert Congress' constitutional role in making decisions about getting involved in significant military conflicts.

That role had been eroding for several decades, as presidents of both parties, taking advantage of the large standing army left in place after World War II, increasingly initiated or escalated combat operations on their own. □

People, animals flee Mississippi River flooding

H. MOHR & M. FOSTER,
Associated Press

YAZOO CITY, Mississippi (AP) — People and animals sought higher ground on Thursday to escape the flooding from the Mississippi River and its tributaries as water flowed over levees and the Coast Guard planned to halt traffic on one of the world's busiest commercial waterways.

In Louisiana, 12,000 acres (4,856 hectares) of corn and soybeans were flooded. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers considered whether to open the Morganza spillway, which would flood thousands of homes and acres (hectares) of farmland but help to protect Baton Rouge, New Orleans

and the oil refineries in between.

Chris Bonura, a spokesman for the Port of New Orleans, said the Coast Guard plans to close a 190-mile (306-kilometer) stretch of river from Baton Rouge to the Gulf of Mexico when the water reaches the 18-foot (5.5-meter) level at a gauge in Carrollton, which could happen by Monday.

The mouth of the Mississippi would become crowded with ships with nowhere else to go, though some might be diverted to other ports. Massive ships that carry U.S. corn, soybeans and other crops out of the country would be unable to move. Shipments of Venezuelan heavy crude oil that come in by tanker to a re-

finery in Chalmette would be locked out of the river, though most refineries on the river are fed by pipelines.

In the poverty-stricken Mississippi Delta, meanwhile, people waited uneasily to see how high the water would get. About 600 homes in the Delta have flooded in the past several days as the water has risen toward some of the highest levels on record.

Swollen by weeks of heavy rain and snowmelt, the Mississippi River has been breaking high-water records that have stood since the 1920s and '30s. It is projected to crest at Vicksburg on May 19 and shatter the mark set there during the cataclysmic Great Flood of 1927. □



Seth Robinson, 4, looks around at the Yazoo River flooding of his father's corn crop on farm land along River Road, north of Yazoo City, Miss., Thursday, May 12, 2011. Thousands of acres of corn, wheat, soybean and cotton crops are now underwater as the tributaries are backing up from flooding along the Mississippi River.

(AP Photo/Rogelio V. Solis)

Obama seeking Congress OK for FBI chief to stay

By BEN FELLER,
AP White House
Correspondent

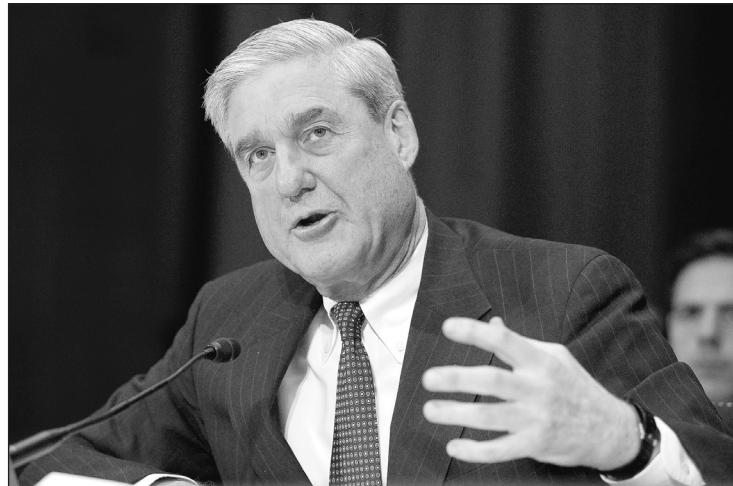
WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama will ask Congress to allow FBI Director Robert Mueller to remain in his job an extra two years, a rare exemption that would give the U.S. government stability in a time of change atop the national security team and renewed worldwide attention on terrorism.

Obama, in a statement, asked lawmakers to go along with his idea "for the sake of our nation's safety and security."

"Given the ongoing threats facing the United States, as well as the leadership transitions at other agencies like the Defense Department and Central Intelligence Agency, I believe continuity and stability at the FBI is critical at this time," the president said.

The news comes as a surprise for an administration that had been seriously vetting candidates to replace Mueller, whose term is set to expire on Sept. 4 under a law that caps the service of FBI directors at 10 years.

Mueller was appointed by Republican President George W. Bush and began just a week before the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks of 2001. Well regarded by Republicans and Democrats, Mueller is known for transforming a crime-fighting



President Barack Obama will ask Congress to allow FBI Director Robert Mueller (above) to remain in his job an extra two years, a rare exemption that would give the government continuity in a time of change atop the national security team, senior administration officials told The Associated Press on Thursday.

(AP Photo/Evan Vucci, File)

agency into the front line of defense against terrorism.

Obama will ask Congress for a two-year extension that would apply only to Mueller. White House officials say it has never been done for an FBI director, but has in other cases.

The decision about Mueller is not tied to any specific threat against the United States in connection with the killing of al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden on May 1, officials said.

Administration officials said they have been consulting with lawmakers and are confident that an exception will be made to keep Mueller in his job.

Obama asked Mueller, 66, to stay and the FBI director said

he would do so for two more years, the officials said.

Another potential factor in the mix: Any replacement for Mueller would have to be confirmed by an expanded Republican minority in the Senate, one with the votes to potentially complicate the prospects of an Obama nominee.

Under the scenario the White House has drawn, Mueller would serve until the start of September 2013, and then the president elected in 2012 would choose his successor for a decade.

Sen. Patrick Leahy, the Democratic chairman of the Judiciary Committee, endorsed Obama's decision and said he was "delighted" to hear Mueller was asked to stay. □

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Prismatic glass facade for WTC tower scrapped



In May 10, 2011 photo, glass windows are being installed on upper floors of One World Trade Center in New York. The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey has scrapped a plan to cover the concrete base of a World Trade Center tower with 2,000 clear prismatic glass panels due to technical problems.

(AP Photo/Mark Lennihan)

KAREN ZRAICK,
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — The owners of the World Trade Center have nixed plans to cover the first 20 stories of its signature skyscraper with decorative glass after it broke in testing.

The glass was expected to help 1 World Trade Center look more open at its windowless base after it was redesigned to become strong enough to withstand a truck bomb. The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey had spent about \$6 million on the custom-made prismatic glass panels for the 1,776-foot (540-meter) skyscraper, which is slated to be the tallest in the U.S. when it is completed in late 2013. But the glass bowed and broke during off-site testing and the agency decided to replace it in late March.

"It was a pragmatic decision," agency spokesman John Kelly said.

The change will not affect the project's budget or schedule. But it scraps a design created to allay concerns that the windowless base of the redesigned tower would look more like a bunker than an inviting office building.

The New York Police Department had raised security concerns about the original design for the building, previously dubbed the Freedom Tower, moving the building site several feet away from the street to make it more difficult for vehicles to approach it.

185-foot (56-meter) concrete base was added to the design in 2005 by architect David Childs. But the base provoked concern about aesthetics. Critics said the concrete was uninviting and made the building look like a fortress.

Childs proposed the installation of the 2,000 prismatic glass panels, which reflect shimmering light and are more commonly used in shop windows and lamps. □

Despite problems, agency says US nuke plants safe

By MATTHEW DALY,
Associated Press

ROCKVILLE, Maryland (AP) — Inspectors have found problems with equipment, training and procedures at some U.S. nuclear reactors, but none serious enough to undermine confidence in the plants' continued safe operation, federal regulators said Thursday.

The problems identified during inspections over the past two months did not pose a significant safety risk and have been corrected, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission said.

The comments came as a task force of senior NRC staffers briefed the five-member panel on a safety review of U.S. nuclear reactors being conducted in response to the nuclear crisis in Japan.

"As we stand today, the task force has not identified any issue we think would undermine our confidence in the continued safety and emergency planning of nuclear plants in this country," said Charles Miller, who oversees environmental management programs for the NRC and is leading the review.

Marty Virgilio, the NRC's deputy executive director, cited problems with equipment and procedures intended to cope with extreme events such as natural disasters or terrorist attacks, rather than issues involving design flaws. He did not say where the problems were found.

An agency spokesman said that problems were identified at less than one-third of the 104 U.S. nuclear reactors.

The problems included emergency pumps that were missing or did not work, or equipment that was stored in areas that could be vulnerable to earthquakes or floods, said Eliot Brenner, an NRC spokesman. "None of the observations posed a significant safety issue," Virgilio told the commission Thursday. "At this point in time it's our understanding that whatever has been found has been corrected." □

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Senate Democrat: Big oil doesn't need tax breaks

By STEPHEN OHLEM-
ACHER,
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Senate Democrats challenged leading oil industry executives Thursday to justify generous tax breaks at a time when people are paying \$4 a gallon for gas. With the CEOs of the five largest oil companies sitting before the Senate Finance Committee, Sen. Ron Wyden of Oregon played a video of a 2005 congressional hearing in which oil company executives said they didn't need generous tax breaks because oil was selling at \$55 a barrel. As the hearing commenced, the price per barrel hovered just below \$100.

"You all said you didn't need them in 2005," Wyden said. "You seem to be telling a different story today."

Chevron Corp. chairman and CEO John Watson said the companies don't want special tax benefits — just the benefits that other industries get. But what the oil company chiefs had to say was not the goal for majority Democrats eager to demonstrate before the 2012 election that they stand with consumers against oil companies recording large profits with the help of billions of dollars in tax breaks. Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, referred to a large portrait of a dog sitting on a pony to illustrate his thoughts of the proceedings.

"All this hearing is about is providing a justification for tax increases," Hatch said.

"For the president and some of my colleagues," he said, "the answer is always raise taxes. Government spends too much? Raise some taxes. Health care too expensive? Raise some taxes. Gas prices too expensive? I've got it . . . Let's raise some taxes."

Democrats acknowledged that a bill to repeal the tax breaks for the companies testifying Thursday would not bring down the price of oil at the gas pump.

And no one suggested that the legislation has a future beyond a talking point. Republicans have enough votes to block it in the Senate and the House is controlled by the GOP.

But Democrats insisted that allowing a hugely profitable industry to continue taking billions of dollars in tax breaks is as credible as the notion of a unicorn galloping into the hearing room.

"The issue is who shares" the burden of economic recovery, said Chairman Max Baucus, D-Mont.

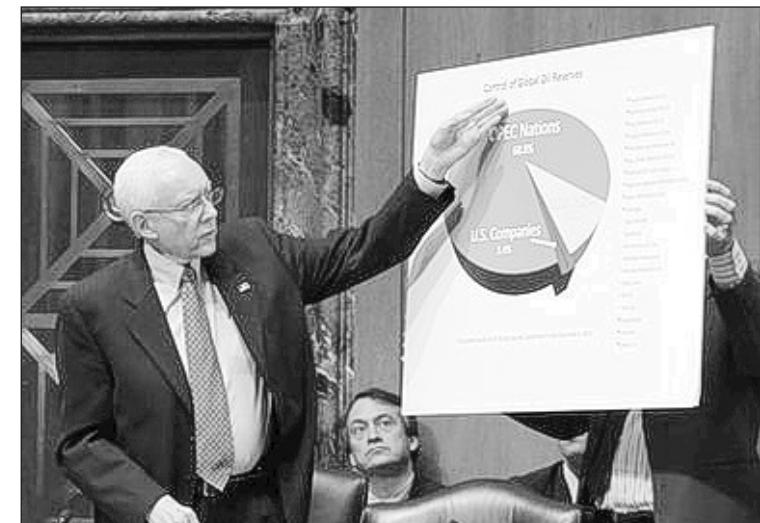
Sen. Robert Menendez, D-N.J., the author of a bill that would repeal the tax breaks for the companies testifying Thursday, demanded an apology from ConocoPhillips CEO James Mulva for a press release from the company that

said in the headline that the tax cut proposals were "un-American."

Mulva refused, saying that no personal offense was intended. "Our industry and company are already taxed heavily compared to other industries in the United States," Mulva said.

Flog-the-CEO is a favored tactic of whichever party is in charge on Capitol Hill during a crisis — a reality well known to the powerful chiefs of Big Tobacco, automakers and Wall Street.

But Big Oil seems a particularly inviting target for Democrats seeking to defend their Senate majority in next year's elections. □



Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, the ranking Republican on the Senate Finance Committee, uses a chart on Capitol Hill in Washington, Thursday, May 12, 2011, to question oil company executives during the committee's hearing with top executives from the big oil companies to discuss high gasoline prices and high profits amid a push by Democratic leaders to strip billions of dollars worth of industry tax breaks.

(AP Photo/Alex Brandon)



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Dispute over Jonestown memorial spills into court



Jim Jones Jr., the adopted son of Jim Jones, left, and John Cobb, who lost ten relatives in the Jonestown tragedy, stand near a Jonestown memorial at Evergreen Cemetery in Oakland, Calif., Thursday, May 12, 2011.

(AP Photo/Jeff Chiu)

ROBIN HINDERY,
Associated Press

OAKLAND, California (AP) — A woman who lost 27 relatives in the 1978 Jonestown tragedy is waging a legal battle against a cemetery over a recently completed memorial to the more than 900 victims that includes the name of Peoples Temple leader Jim

Jones.

The Rev. Jynona Norwood appeared Thursday in court in an attempt to block further construction and use of the memorial at Evergreen Cemetery in Oakland, where more than 400 unidentified and unclaimed Jonestown victims are buried in a mass grave. Judge Robert McGuiness was

expected to issue a ruling on a temporary restraining order Thursday afternoon.

The \$45,000 memorial consists of four flat granite slabs engraved with the names of all 918 Americans who died at the temple's agricultural compound in Guyana and a nearby jungle airstrip. The final slab was laid into the ground Monday.

The project was commissioned in August by temple survivors and supporters, including Jones' adopted son, who says the inclusion of his father's name is about representing the truth of what happened on Nov. 18, 1978.

"Our memorial removes individual opinions and makes it factual," Jim Jones Jr. said outside the courtroom.

Norwood says the cemetery violated an agreement with her for a massive granite memorial wall that would not include Jones' name. □

U.S. Briefs

Police: US man lived with fiancee's body

WICHITA, Kansas (AP) — Police in Kansas say a 57-year-old man lived with the body of his dead fiancee for several days, praying she would be brought back to life. Investigators don't suspect foul play, but an autopsy on the 54-year-old woman was planned Thursday. Calls from neighbors concerned about the woman's welfare sent police Wednesday night to the home the couple shared in Wichita. Officers said the man didn't want to let the officers in. He was detained after they smelled a strong odor. KAKE-TV reports the man told officers he was praying for divine intervention to bring his fiancee back to life. He was taken to a hospital for a mental evaluation. Police believe the woman died about one week earlier. □

Calif. governor defends judge's decision

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Lawyers for California Gov. Jerry Brown are accusing the backers of the state's same-sex marriage ban of engaging in a thinly veiled "witch hunt" against the gay federal judge who struck down a gay marriage ban as unconstitutional. The charge came in legal papers state lawyers filed Thursday in U.S. District Court in San Francisco arguing that the voter-approved ban's sponsors have no basis for trying to get former Chief Judge Vaughn Walker's ruling overturned. The group that qualified the measure for the ballot has asked Walker's successor to vacate the judge's decision because Walker revealed after he retired this year that he is in a long-term relationship with another man. □

Child porn ring suspect cries, gets prison

PITTSBURGH (AP) — An U.S. trucker cried and apologized for his "outrageous" behavior as he became the last of eight men sentenced by a federal judge for participating in a social networking site whose members shared child pornography. Dave Dean, 43, was sentenced to 15 years in federal prison followed by probation for life by U.S. District Judge Arthur Schwab in Pittsburgh, who called the case the "most egregious and horrific" child pornography case he's ever seen. "It was outrageous, my conduct, and I deeply regret having done it," Dean told the judge. "It is clear that I have a serious problem." Dean was charged by a federal grand jury with participating in a group led by 57-year-old Stephen Sims who was sentenced to 17 years in prison in January. Although he pleaded guilty, Sims characterized himself as more of a "den mother" or "cheerleader" than the leader of dozens of men who prosecutors said used his site in the United States and several foreign countries, including the Philippines, the United Kingdom, and Dubai. Prosecutors said Sims vetted members by having them send him child pornography pictures and videos to prove they weren't police. □

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Aruba TODAY

Cultural exhibit comes to the Renaissance Mall



ORANJESTAD – A unique cultural exhibit by the National Archeological Museum will be opening at the Renaissance Mall on May 18th, offered in collaboration with Meta Corp., the mall's parent company. Titled O Aruba, the exhibit's name echoes some of the lyrics of the island's national anthem 'O Aruba, nos Baranca ta stima,' which declares the love of the singers to this small much-appreciated island. Archeologist Vivi Ruiz, the Director of the Archeological Museum explained that the meaningful expo was put to-

gether in honor of Aruba's 25th anniversary of Status Aparte, the island's unique status within the Dutch Kingdom, and in honor of the national anthem's 35th anniversary. The central theme of the exhibit is creativity, as it finds expression in Aruba's prehistoric times, and how the island's special ingenuity has served it through the years and will surely do so into the future. A number of panels in Papiamento & English are being created featuring some of the museum treasures of Amerindian artifacts, from tools

to jewelry, celebrating the island's rich heritage and inviting the public at large to further explore the subject by visiting the National Archeological Museum in the heart of town. Eduardo De Veer, the president and CEO of Meta Corp., graced the reveal with his presence reiterating his company's commitment to cultural projects and his full support of private and public sector initiatives designed to promote and conserve this island's history. The exhibit picked a basalt rock as its emblem. The volcanic material was used by early



island inhabitants to manufacture tools, and the artifacts give evidence to craftsmanship and imagination, which are this island's national traits,

preserved through the millenniums. Pictured here the press conference at the Renaissance Convention Center. □



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Angela Croes

8:30 pm

Mini Cooper Countryman unveiled at Palm Beach Plaza

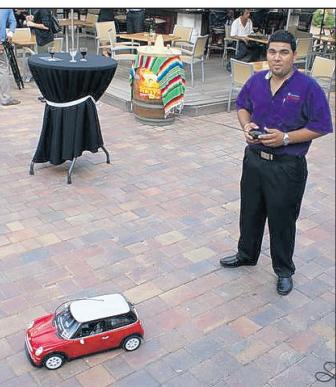


PALM BEACH – Stephan Pfingsten, the Manager of MINI for Latin America joined Ultimate Automotive executives Marcel Meenhorst & Frederica Jones on stage for a press conference hosted by the Palm Beach Plaza Mall. Mall Manager Alex Otterspeer, representing the Palm Beach Plaza Mall expressed his complete satisfaction with the Mini Cooper Launch Event for Aruba, unfold-

ing at Aruba's largest Mall. Ultimate Automotive parked a number of very attractive MINIs on the plaza including the Classic Hatch, the Convertible, the Clubman and the new member of the MINI family, the Mini Cooper Countryman. Driving a Mini, says Pfingsten, offers excitement, emotion and individuality.

Known as a personality on wheels, the MINI is a fashion statement and

a way of life, he states. Having partnered with the BMW group in 2001, sales of Mini Cooper sky rocketed



in the past decade and recently the number of MINIs sold in Latin America showed as much as 350% growth. The focal point of the presentation at the Palm Beach Plaza Mall was MINI Cooper Countryman the largest and boldest of all MINI models. The car is a cross-over model, Pfingsten explains, combining classic style and contemporary Sport Activity Model features. It is also technologically advanced equipped with all the bells and whistles for Google and Bluetooth use, from online entertainment to smart phones. The gathering was enhanced by wine service with Romar Trading, and the MINI remote-controlled car, but mostly by the pure excitement generated by super cute cars!! Everyone of the guests wanted to try the bucket seats and admire the BMW engine, kick the run-flat tires with fancy rims, and comment of the stylish the black & white paint-job. Pictured here the lively presentation! □

Of Frangipani Restaurant

Edwin Ortiz celebrates ten years at the helm

ORANJESTAD - The Turtle's Nest & Frangipani Restaurants at Costa Linda Beach Resort have served resort guests and their family member since the resort's opening day. In the last decade, two people who embody the spirit of service at the restaurants are Shanelle Paulina and Edwin Ortiz who are celebrating their tenth year anniversary at the helm at Costa Linda. Shanelle and Edwin share the responsibility for management during the restaurant's hours of operations, and actively pursue total guest satisfaction for Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner. Edwin who studied Hotel Management in his native Colombia, South America, started his hospitality career at Costa Linda Beach Resort as Night Auditor. His exceptional gift of com-

munication quickly moved him up the executive ladder from his job during off hours, to a more visible position during the resort's busiest hours.

Edwin then continued to distinguish himself when he worked as a bartender in the lobby bar, talking to guests and forging long-lasting connections with the resort's owners. For the past few years as the evening manager of the Food & Beverage operation Edwin pays special attention to dinner, making it as tropical and romantic as possible with the garden set-up of the Frangipani, while the Turtle's Nest Restaurant is closed for renovations. "We welcome timeshare owners home," Edwin says, "with a great appreciation, we are here to serve them, and we hope they find our food

selection refreshing and reflective of their special needs, wishes and desires." Guests at Frangipani also have the option to eat, reasonably priced light meals any time, with the restaurant's all-day dining menu, serving favorites without interruption from 12noon to 10pm. "This also allows families with small children to feed them at any convenient time," Edwin adds. Edwin loves to promote the restaurant's BBQ Night on Tuesday, serving dinner hot off the grill under the stars, al fresco, "it doesn't get any better than that," he promises. To find out What's Cooking, consult the board or Edwin any time, as he easily speaks to guest, about the restaurant's signature dishes, which change every night. □



Dinner is always a Genuine Spanish Experience at Casa Tua Barcelona

Enjoy a taste of Barcelona tonight at Casa Tua

Special show tonight with live music and dancing



ORANJESTAD - Casa Tua Barcelona reflects this intercultural relationship of Spanish, French and Italian cuisine, all served in a friendly, casual setting. The décor is warm and cozy with wall painted in red terracotta lime wash, the bar ceiling is made of ancient traditional Spanish bricks; you will feel as if in an old Bodega, the covert terrace facing the

Renaissance hotel is typical to the Spanish French and Italian villages. On the menu, a wide variety of Spanish Tapas, appetizers starting at \$2.95, and plentiful Paellas, made daily in the open kitchen, filled with mussels, clams, shrimp, pork loin and chicken. The menu also boasts famous Pata Negra ham, Chorizo, and other specialty dry-cured pork sausage.

Naturally, the restaurant's whole Grilled Red Snapper, fresh fish fillets and Lamb chop are all cooked "A la Plancha", with just a sprinkle of olive oil and herbs, representing a healthy Mediterranean life-style. Patrons also favor the restaurant irresistible thin-crust pizza, baked according to a secret family recipe, topped with Casa Tua



infused spicy olive oil, a signature condiment for Casa Tua restaurants on the Island. To complete this Spanish experience and make it truly unforgettable, Angela Croes, the local Song-Diva, a native of Spain, a golden recording artist, will perform all Wednesdays and Fridays from 8pm with Spanish-Aruba guitar talents. You really don't want to miss such an enchanting voice and spectacular

show. From the dramatic Spanish ballads to the catchy warm Rumba Flamenco music of the Gypsy Kings, Angela delivers a night of fun and emotion... The restaurant is situated downtown behind the Renaissance hotel in Aventura Mall. Open MON – SAT 11AM – 10PM Happy Hour Daily 5PM – 7PM Tel: 588-5695 □

At Amazonia Churrascaria

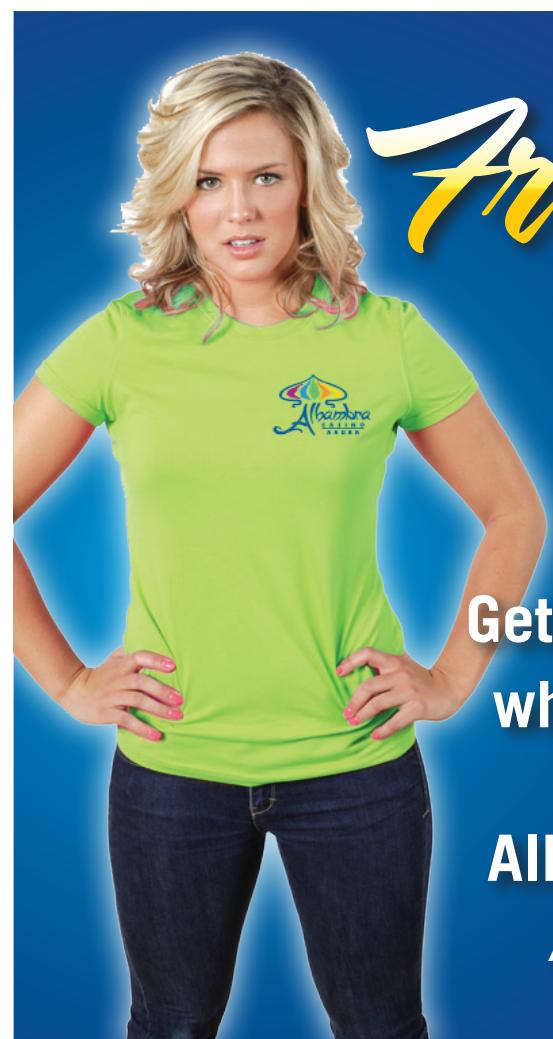
Gio Maduro enjoys a surprise party



PALM BEACH – Gio who celebrated his 36th birthday, was pleasantly surprised when he walked into Amazonia Churrascaria's private banquet room and found his smiling and clapping family members. Wife Lily Dirks organized a surprise party with some help from daughters Lynnoush

and Gillany, in honor of the big day. The family had a great time sampling all grilled meat cuts and taking multiple trips to the salad bar before Gio got his cake and blew the candles having his birthday wish come true in the form of a much-enjoyed family gathering. □





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Yemen protests continue to rage

AHMED AL HAJ,
Associated Press

SANA, Yemen (AP) — Yemeni police trying to disperse thousands of anti-government protesters in two cities Thursday killed two and wounded at least 47, some by gunfire, according to witnesses. In one of the cities, protesters overran a government building.

Gunmen fired at protesters in the central city of Bayda from the roof of a building belonging to the ruling party, killing two people and injuring seven, activist Ghazi al-Amiri said. Later, protesters set fire to the building.

In the southern city of Taiz, police fired live ammunition and rubber bullets to disperse demonstrators there, injuring 40 people, said field doctor Sadeq al-Shujah.

The Gulf Cooperation Council said Thursday it was pressing to revive a proposal that nearly ended the Yemen crisis last month. Taiz has been a hotbed of anti-government protests. Activist Nouh al-Wafi said crowds seized control of the Oil Ministry building and hung a banner over the entrance on Thursday that said "Closed until further notice by order of the youth revolution." Bushra al-Maktari, an activist in Taiz, said police fired tear gas at the demonstrators, and the government sent army and security reinforcements to confront thousands camped in the city's central square.

Demonstrations took place in

Aden, Hadramawt, Hodeida and other cities.

The Thursday's shooting raised the two-day Yemen death toll to 17, including five protesters who died Thursday from injuries suffered a day earlier. Several youth activists were also abducted, according to a statement issued by the Organizational Committee for the Revolution.

Protesters have been demanding the resignation of longtime President Ali Abdullah Saleh in weeks of demonstrations, some involving tens of thousands of people. Saleh has been clinging to power, warning that if he leaves without an orderly succession, the al-Qaida branch in Yemen will take advantage of the resulting chaos.

Saleh torpedoed a mediation effort last month that appeared to be close to resolving the crisis. Yemen's powerful neighbors in the Gulf Cooperation Council put together a package that offered Saleh to name his own successor, avoid prosecution and step down in 30 days. Opposition leaders grudgingly accepted it, but at the last minute, Saleh refused to sign.

On Thursday the GCC tried to resurrect the deal.

"The Gulf initiative is the best solution and an exit out of the country's dramatic situation stop the bloodshed and

to spare the country further deterioration of the security and political division," GCC secretary-general Abdullatif bin Rashid al-Zayani said in a statement Thursday. Media reports said al-Zayani was expected to visit Yemen on Saturday to press the initiative. On Thursday the U.S. State Department offered its support for the deal and demanded that in the meantime, Yemen's government stop firing on protesters.

"We call on the Yemeni security forces to exercise maximum restraint, refrain from violence and respect the rights of the Yemeni people to freely and peacefully assemble and express their views," spokesman Mark Toner said in a statement.

"We call on the parties to sign



Anti-government protestors react during a demonstration demanding the resignation of Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh, in Taiz, Yemen, Thursday, May 12, 2011. Yemeni police trying to disperse thousands of anti-government protestors in two cities Thursday killed two and wounded at least 47, some by gunfire, according to witnesses. In one of the cities, protestors overran a government building.

(AP Photo/Anees Mahyoub)

Protesters were planning a large gathering on Friday, calling it "the Friday of Decisiveness," according to the Revolution Committee statement. □

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Far-right protest in Athens turns violent



A man speaks on his phone as Riot policemen pass-by during a protest in central Athens, on Thursday, May 12, 2011. Greek left-wing groups and unions protested Thursday amid heated condemnations of alleged police brutality following the critical injury of a protester at an anti-austerity march in central Athens.

(AP Photo/ Thanassis Stavrakis)

By DEREK GATOPoulos,
Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — Gangs of far-right youths attacked dark-skinned immigrants in central Athens and clashed with riot police Thursday, leaving at least 25 people injured, in a show of force by extremist groups.

The attacks, which lasted several hours, occurred following a downtown protest against a deadly mugging that had hap-

pened earlier in the week.

Several hundred youths, dressed in black and some wielding bats, were involved in the daytime attacks in an area where thousands of Asian and African immigrants live. Immigrants were chased through narrow streets of the city's Kato Patissia neighborhood and punched and kicked to the ground by groups of attackers.

Officials from a state-run Polykliniki and Athens Gen-

eral hospitals told the AP that 25 people were treated for injuries following the clashes — 19 immigrants and six Greeks, with one man remaining overnight for observation. Thursday's clashes followed a spike in racial attacks in Greece during its financial crisis and the election of the leader of a violent far-right Chrysi Avgi organization to Athens' City Council in November.

Police said 48 protesters were detained for questioning but none were immediately charged.

Human Rights Watch urged Greek authorities to conduct "a diligent investigation" and prosecute the violent offenders.

"It's horrifying. Clearly these are indiscriminate racist attacks in a city and a country that by all accounts has seen a troubling — an alarming — rise in racist sentiment and racist violence over the past several years," Judith Sunderland, a senior researcher at the rights group for Western Europe told the AP. □

Mexico fires 7 officials from immigration agency

By E. E. CASTILLO,
Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Seven top officials were fired Thursday from Mexico's National Immigration Institute, part of a wider cleanup effort at the embattled department amid rampant migrant kidnappings and accusations that some agents have been involved.

The officials directed operations in seven states most traveled by Central American migrants trying to reach the United States and where some of the worst atrocities against migrants have occurred, the Interior Department announced in a statement.

They include the director in the northern state of Tamaulipas, where a group of Central American migrants recently accused immigration agents of pulling them off buses and handing them over to criminal gangs. Six agents from the immigration institute were arrested after migrants identi-

fied them in photographs.

The Central Americans were among 120 migrants, both Mexicans and foreigners, rescued last month by soldiers in separate raids at houses in Tamaulipas.

The dangers for migrants crossing Mexican territory controlled by drug gangs have increased dramatically in recent years. In August 2010, 72 Central and South American migrants were found massacred at a ranch in the Tamaulipas town of San Fernando, allegedly because they refused to work for the Zetas gang.

Last month, authorities unearthed 183 bodies from clandestine graves in Tamaulipas,

many of them believed to have been snatched from passenger buses by the Zetas. It is unclear how many of the victims might have been migrants. Just six bodies have been identified — five Mexicans and one Guatemalan. Several municipal police officers have been arrested in the mass killings. □

but investigators have given no indication that immigration agents were involved.

The plight of migrants is a source of discomfort in Mexico, which regularly lobbies for better treatment of its own immigrants in the United States. The government says it has taken many steps to help migrants, including passing a law in recent years establishing that it is no longer a crime to be in Mexico illegally. Mexico also provides humanitarian visas to migrants found to be victims of abuse and has signed agreements with Central American countries promising safe passage during deportations.

But despite many efforts to root out corruption, Mexican immigration officials and police are often found to be involved in the kidnapping of migrants, who are regularly extorted for money and, more recently, targeted by drug gangs trying to forcibly recruit them as traffickers. □

World Briefs

Irish Muslim arrested in Dublin over threats

DUBLIN (AP) — Police say they have arrested Ireland's most notorious Muslim convert over his reported death threats against President Barack Obama. Police say 43-year-old Khalid Kelly was arrested Thursday at his Dublin residence on suspicion of threatening to kill the U.S. leader. He could be held for up to three days before being charged or released.

Kelly was quoted as telling a British newspaper that he expected al-Qaida to kill Obama during his upcoming visit to Ireland. Obama is scheduled to spend May 23 in Dublin and the village of Moneygall, ancestral home of a great-great-great-grandfather. Kelly converted to Islam while imprisoned in Saudi Arabia. He has praised al-Qaida and Osama bin Laden on Irish TV, trained with the Taliban in Pakistan, and named a son Osama. □

Argentine president threatens to quit

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — President Cristina Fernandez threatened on Thursday to quit politics rather than put up with challenges to her authority this election year. Most of the populist leader's supporters and opponents alike assume she'll likely win a second term in October if she runs.

But Fernandez has been suffering from low blood pressure and fatigue, and her voice was cracking and hoarse as she described what she called an enormous personal and physical effort to keep going after the sudden death six months ago of her husband and power broker, former President Nestor Kirchner.

"I'm not dying to come back to be president. I've given all that I could of myself. ... My children and this humble woman, we've put forth so much of ourselves, we've given so much, we've delivered so much," she told thousands of supporters at a rally in suburban Buenos Aires. "I care for you all very much, but we also have to understand that a country can't be created by a president alone; it needs the responsibility and maturity of all those who share this model and this project." □

Catholic-Protestant leaders reappointed

DUBLIN (AP) — The Catholic and Protestant leaders of Northern Ireland's government were appointed Thursday to new four-year terms and planned to form the rest of their Cabinet next week as power-sharing — the central goal of a U.S.-brokered 1998 peace accord — passed another positive milestone. The peacemaking coalition led by First Minister Peter Robinson, a Protestant, and Deputy First Minister Martin McGuinness, a Catholic, was the first to complete a full term since 1998. Their two parties received strong backing from voters in elections last week for the Northern Ireland Assembly.

"This new assembly gives us the chance of a fresh start with a renewed mandate.

Let us use it to create the new Northern Ireland," Robinson told the packed 108-member chamber at Stormont Parliamentary Building in Belfast. Robinson's Democratic Unionist Party won a record-high 38 seats. McGuinness' IRA-linked Sinn Fein party finished second with 29. The result means their two parties — bitter enemies during decades of Irish Republican Army violence, unlikely partners since 2007 — will dominate the next power-sharing government. □

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Spaniards fearing aftershocks flee quake city

JORGE SAINZ,
Associated Press

LORCA, Spain (AP) — Thousands of Spaniards fled this small agricultural city Thursday, fearing major aftershocks might level it after the country's deadliest earthquakes in 55 years killed nine people and caused extensive damage.

Lorca was transformed into a ghost town, with a steady stream of cars carrying many of its 90,000 residents to nearby cities and towns to stay with relatives. Stores, restaurants, and schools were closed as the sirens of police vehicles and ambulances filled the air and helicopters hovered overhead.

Gines Navarro waited nervously as firefighters retrieved belongings from his apartment building so he could leave.

One neighbor had died, and the staircase in Navarro's building collapsed.

"We can't stay here," Navarro

said, his wife sobbing at his side.

"We're going to stay with relatives."

Only a few people walked the streets.

Tens of thousands spent the night outside in makeshift camps, and many of those who remained were poor Latin American immigrants who work the fields and had nowhere else to go.

Though Spain's government promised to set up a shelter to house 3,500 people, Luis Vazquez was camping in a supermarket parking lot with his wife, 12-year-old daughter and four other families.

The unemployed Ecuadorean farm worker said his apartment was badly damaged, and that he would soon "have to ask for help if it continues like this. I can't care for my family without money, and now without a house."

Thirty people remained hospitalized Thursday, a day after the two quakes, which prompted an estimated 30,000 residents to sleep in cars, shelters fashioned from cardboard boxes and lawn chairs at makeshift camps in parks in the city about 30 kilometers (19 miles) inland from Mediterranean Sea beach destinations where little to no damage was reported. □



A police officer looks at the damage in Lorca, Spain Thursday May 12, 2011, a day after an earthquake.

(AP Photo/Alberto Saiz)

Crime wave in egypt has people afraid, even the police

By DAVID D. KIRKPATRICK,
© 2011 New York Times

CAIRO — The neighbors watched helplessly from behind locked doors as an exchange of gunfire rang out at the police station. Then a stream of about 80 prisoners burst through the doors — some clad only in underwear, many brandishing guns, machetes, even a fire extinguisher — as the police fled.

"The police are afraid," said Mohamed Ismail, 30, a witness. "I am afraid to leave my neighborhood."

Three months after the ouster of Hosni Mubarak, a surging crime wave in post-revolutionary Egypt has emerged as a serious threat to its promised transition to democracy. Businessmen, politicians and human rights activists say they fear that the mounting disorder — from sectarian strife to soccer riots — is hampering a desperately needed economic recovery or, worse, inviting a new authoritarian crackdown.

At least five attempted jailbreaks have been reported in Cairo in the past two weeks, at least three of them successful. Other, similar attempts take place "every day," a senior Interior Ministry official said, speaking on the condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk publicly. □

Noche Mejicana
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Accounts piece together bin Laden's fugitive trail

By KATHY GANNON,
Associated Press

ISLAMABAD (AP) — For a man on the run, Osama bin Laden seemed to do very little running. Instead, he chose to spend long stretches — possibly years — in one place and often in the company of his family.

As details emerge of bin Laden's era as America's most-wanted man, it appears he was often going in one direction while the American-directed hunt was moving in another.

These documents — in ad-

Pakistani authorities are pulling together a close-up view of bin Laden's final years from sources such as his three widows, including one who says she never left the upper floors of the walled compound in Abbottabad where bin Laden was killed. But a far more sweeping narrative has taken shape from reports of Guantanamo Bay interrogations posted by WikiLeaks in late April just before the American raid on bin Laden's compound.



This image made from television shows Osama bin Laden holding an AK47 automatic rifle in an undated recruitment video tape for his organization, as viewed by The Associated Press in Kuwait City on Tuesday, June 19, 2001. The Associated Press viewed the tape at the offices of Al-Rai Al-Amm, a Kuwaiti daily newspaper that published a story about the video Tuesday. The newspaper would not say how or where it acquired the video. For a man on the run, Osama bin laden seemed to do very little running. Instead, he chose to spend long stretches, possibly years, in one place and often in the company of his family.

(AP Photo, File)

dition to interviews by The Associated Press — indicate bin Laden relied on Afghan

2001. But he was still in Afghanistan and galloping away on horseback in the opposite direction toward the northeastern Kunar province, according to bin Laden's aide Awar Gul, who was arrested in December 2001 and eventually sent to Guantanamo.

But according to the documents released by WikiLeaks, Gul gave the information to interrogators from 2002 to 2006 — apparently too late to produce any active leads.

It also was assumed bin Laden traveled light, accompanied by a few guards who were most likely Arabs. But it turns out he kept close to his family — or at least part of it — and his most-trusted courier was a Kuwaiti-born Pakistani who went by the nom de guerre Abu Ahmed al-Kuwaiti, according to U.S. documents and investigators. The discrepancies between the Western assumptions and the apparent details on bin Laden's movements go back to the Sept. 11 attacks.

Bin Laden didn't go underground, as widely believed by intelligence agencies. He stayed in Kandahar, mingled with his Arab fighters and met Taliban leader Mullah Mohammed Omar, according to an AP interview with a former Taliban intelligence chief.

The official, Mullah Mohammed Khaksar, said bin Laden left Kandahar for the capital Kabul after the start of U.S.-led attacks to oust the Taliban on Oct. 7, 2001. Bin Laden stayed in Kabul until Nov. 13 when the Taliban fled and the U.S.-allied Northern Alliance swept into the city, Khaksar told the AP. □

How bin Laden emailed without being detected by U.S.

A. GOLDMAN & M. APUZZO,
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Osama bin Laden was a prolific email writer who built a painstaking system that kept him one step ahead of the U.S. government's best eavesdroppers despite having no Internet access in his hideout.

His methods, described in new detail to The Associated Press by a counterterrorism official and a second person briefed on the U.S. investigation, served him well for years and frustrated Western efforts to trace him through cyberspace. The arrangement allowed bin Laden to stay in touch worldwide without leaving any digital fingerprints behind.

The people spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity to discuss the sensitive intelligence analysis.

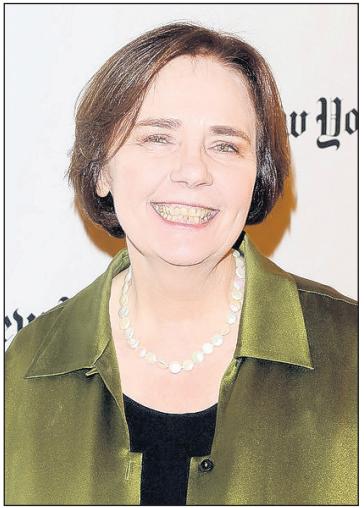
Bin Laden's system was built on discipline and trust. But it also left behind an extensive archive of email exchanges for the U.S. to scour. The trove of electronic records pulled out of his compound after he was killed last week is revealing thousands of messages and potentially hundreds of email addresses, the AP has learned. Holed up in his walled compound in northeast Pakistan with no phone or Internet capabilities, bin Laden would type a message on his computer without an Internet connection, then save it using a thumb-sized flash drive. □



People attend a pro-Pakistan army rally organized by Pakistan Peace Party near the Parliament in Islamabad, Pakistan on Thursday, May 12, 2011. Pakistan army and its spying wing Inter Services Intelligence, ISI, facing serious criticism from media and public after killing of Osama bin Laden by a helicopter-borne U.S. military force on last week, in a fortress-like compound on the outskirts of Pakistani city of Abbottabad.

(AP Photo/B.K.Bangash)

Reading, writing and revenues



GAIL COLLINS

© 2011 New York Times

American education is going to be reformed until it rolls over and begs for mercy. Vouchers! Guns on campus! Just the other day, the Florida state Legislature took a giant step toward ending the scourge of droopy drawers in high school by upping the penalties for underwear-exposing pants.

Today, let's take a look at the privatization craze and the conviction that there is nothing about molding young minds that can't be improved by the profit motive.

Enrollment in for-profit colleges has ballooned to almost 2 million, propelled by more than \$25 billion in federal student loans, many of which are apparently never going to be repaid. More than 700 public K-12 schools around the country are now managed by for-profit companies. Last week, in Ohio, the state House went for the whole hog and approved legislation that would allow for-profit businesses to open up their own taxpayer-financed charter schools. "It takes the public out of public education," complained Bill Sims of the Ohio Alliance for Public Charter Schools.

This exciting new plan, which seemed to have been inserted into the state budget bill by a magical invisible hand, would also reduce oversight. It got a rave review in The Columbus Dispatch from an op-ed contributor named Thomas Needles, who cheered legislators for trying to end the "drip-drop of wrongheaded regulation" of charter schools.

Needles is a consultant for White Hat Management, the largest company currently

managing charter schools in Ohio — and with none too great a record, according to the National Education Policy Center, which said that only 2 percent of the schools White Hat runs have scored well on yearly progress tests. The owner of White Hat is a gynormous donor to the state Republican Party. Not that that would make any difference. Just saying.

So that's the pathbreaking privatization news in Ohio. Now let's take a look at Texas, which has been leading the way in putting for-profit companies in charge of certifying teachers.

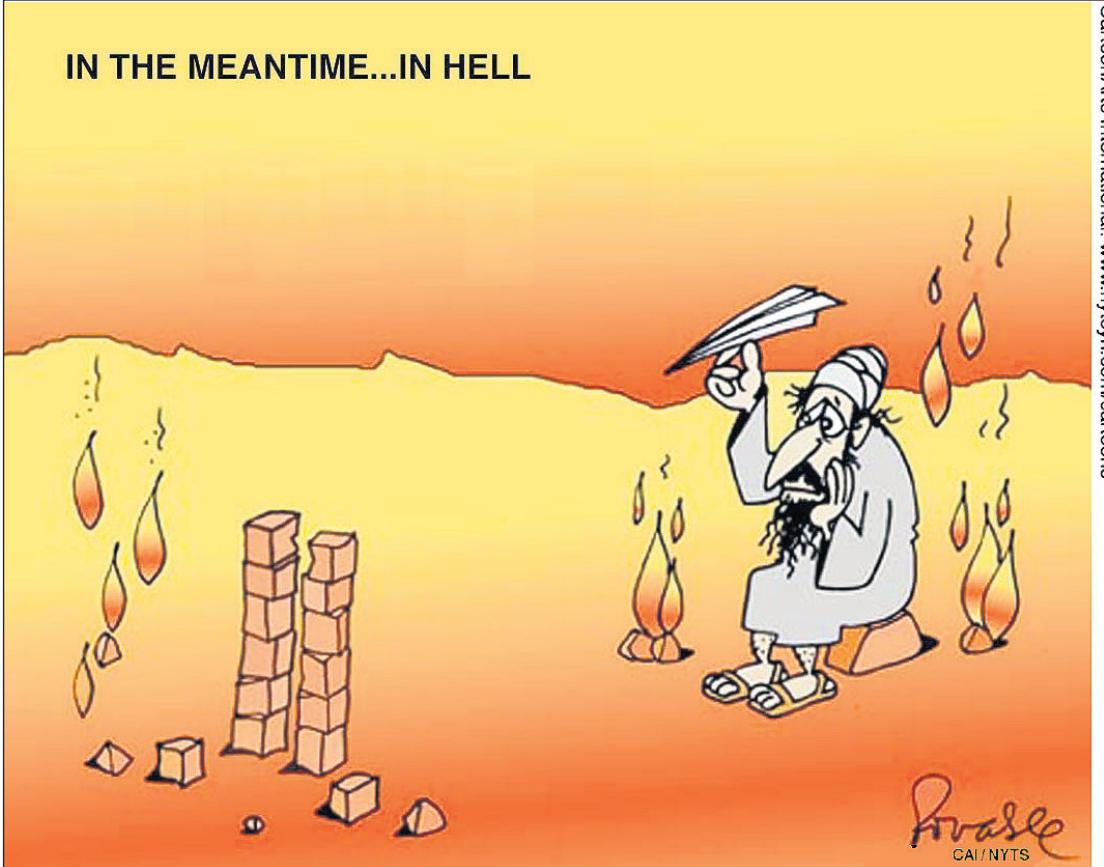
"Very interesting and very disturbing," said Linda Darling-Hammond, a professor of education at Stanford who studies teacher certification issues. Darling-Hammond says that when the federal government began demanding certified teachers in every classroom, Texas was among the states that responded by creating alternative certification programs, some of which have requirements slightly less rigorous than those for the trainers at neighborhood gyms. Most of the new teachers in Texas — particularly at schools in poor neighborhoods — come from alternative certification programs.

Then, the Legislature invited for-profit businesses into the game. "Ever since then, the innovation and competition has been phenomenal," claimed Vernon Reaser, the president of Texas Teachers, the largest of the state's alt-cert companies.

Here is one indicator of how innovative things are getting. Texas is currently considering — although not with any great intensity — a bill that would require that people who go through these programs spend a couple of days practice teaching before they are turned loose in their own classrooms.

The sponsor is Rep. Mike Villarreal of San Antonio. Villarreal first came to my attention as the legislator who proposed requiring that the course content in public school sex education classes be medically accurate. □

IN THE MEANTIME...IN HELL



Cartoon Arts International: www.nytsyn.com/cartoons



NICHOLAS D. KRISTOF

© 2011 New York Times
HARGEISA, Somaliland — People usually torture those whom they fear or despise. But one of the most common forms of torture in the modern world, incomparably more widespread than waterboarding or electric shocks, is inflicted by mothers on daughters they love.

It's female genital mutilation — sometimes called female circumcision — and it is prevalent across a broad swath of Africa and chunks of Asia as well. Mothers take their daughters at about age 10 to cutters like Maryan Hirsi Ibrahim, a middle-aged Somali woman who says she wields her razor blade on up to a dozen girls a day.

"This tradition is for keeping our girls chaste, for lowering the sex drive of our daughters," Ibrahim told me. "This is our culture."

Ibrahim prefers the most extreme form of genital muti-

A rite of torture for girls

lation, called infibulation or Pharaonic circumcision. And let's not be dainty or euphemistic. This is a grotesque human rights abuse that doesn't get much attention because it involves private parts and is awkward to talk about. So pardon the bluntness about what infibulation entails.

The girls' genitals are carved out, including the clitoris and labia, often with no anesthetic. What's left of the flesh is sewn together with three to six stitches — wild thorns in rural areas, or needle and thread in the cities. The cutter leaves a tiny opening to permit urination and menstruation. Then the girls' legs are tied together, and she is kept immobile for 10 days until the flesh fuses together.

When the girl is married and ready for sex, she must be cut open by her husband or by a respected woman in the community.

All this is, of course, excruciating. It also leads to infections and urinary difficulties, and scar tissue can make childbirth more dangerous, increasing maternal mortality and injuries such as fistulas.

This is one of the most pervasive human rights abuses worldwide, with three million girls mutilated each year in Africa alone, according to U.N. estimates. A hospital here in Somaliland found that 96 per-

cent of women it surveyed had undergone infibulation.

The challenge is that this is a form of oppression that women themselves embrace and perpetuate.

"A young girl herself will want to be cut," Ibrahim told me, vigorously defending the practice. "If a girl is not cut, it would be hard for her to live in the community. She would be stigmatized."

Kalthoun Hassan, a young mother in an Ethiopian village near Somaliland, told me that she would insist on her daughters being cut and her sons marrying only girls who had been. She added: "It is God's will for girls to be circumcised."

For four decades, Westerners have campaigned against genital cutting, without much effect.

Indeed, the Western term "female genital mutilation" has antagonized some African women because it assumes that they have been "mutilated." Aid groups are now moving to add the more neutral term "female genital cutting" to their lexicon.

Is it cultural imperialism for Westerners to oppose genital mutilation? Yes, perhaps, but it's also justified. Some cultural practices such as genital mutilation — or foot-binding or bride-burning — are too brutal to defer to. □

'Hesher': Burn this, curse that, wreak your havoc



Joseph Gordon-Levitt, on the air, with Devin Brochu and Natalie Portman, at rear, in "Hesher," a 2010 film directed by Spencer Susser, in an undated handout image. Susser's "Hesher" stars Gordon-Levitt as a tattooed, profanity-spewing, heavy-metal life force with lessons to teach.

(Merrick Morton/Wreckin Hill Entertainment via The New York Times)

Stephen Holden

© 2011 New York Times

The only reason to see "Hesher" is to cringe before Joseph

Gordon-Levitt's portrayal of its scary, hot-wired title character, a violent California drifter who barges into the

home of a grieving suburban family and is given the run of the house.

This raging, foul-mouthed menace to society, whose side-long glances send poisoned arrows, is a wiry, heavy-metal Tarzan, with shoulder-length hair and homemade tattoos, one of which is a hand with an extended middle finger.

Just for the hell of it, Hesher, who exults in wreaking havoc, drags along the 13-year-old T.J. (Devin Brochu), a neglected, viciously bullied preadolescent boy, on his adventures in home invasion and extreme vandalism.

At one property, he douses an empty car with gasoline and explodes it with a lighted cigarette before roaring off in his van and leaving T.J. to take the heat. At another he heaves patio furniture into the swimming pool. His typical speech is an obscene rant.

Gordon-Levitt's sinewy, supercharged performance is so visceral that it is hard to imagine that this is the same actor who was such a persuasively wistful puppy in "(500) Days of Summer." More than anyone, Hesher resembles a demonic, speed-fueled younger

brother of Brad Pitt, on a terminal bender.

How Hesher inserts himself into the Forney family — a father, Paul (a bearded Rainn Wilson); T.J., who is Paul's son; and a grandmother (Piper Laurie), collapsed in grief after the recent death of Paul's wife — isn't convincingly explained. Paul, who sleeps through the days in a pharmacological stupor, simply accepts T.J.'s word that Hesher is a friend. (Hesher, who takes over the garage, has threatened T.J. with bodily harm if he doesn't go along with the ruse.)

In its first two-thirds, the movie builds up a thunderhead of fury, as T.J. endures the indifference of his depressed father and is repeatedly humiliated by a schoolmate who spits on him and dunks his head in a toilet. Hesher shows up during one of these attacks but does nothing to stop it.

But at a certain point in the movie — the feature-directing debut of Spencer Susser, from a screenplay he wrote with David Michod — "Hesher" lowers its fists enough to signal its true intentions. Though it pretends to be otherwise, it

reveals itself as the latest example of an icky popular genre that might be called Life Force Exerts Redemptive Power. It tips its hand in a scene in which Hesher engages the grandmother in conversation and coaxes her into sharing a bong. Laurie's character is a wily, slightly dotty old woman with a good heart. And as she experiences the marijuana glow, her sly smile signals that she likes it.

The movie awkwardly throws in Natalie Portman, playing a down-and-out supermarket cashier whom T.J. encounters by chance and pines after, while Hesher gurgles obscene encouragement to him. For what it's worth, Portman's performance in an unnecessary, unglamorous minor role is impeccable.

As "Hesher" continues its accelerating descent into bathos, T.J., aping Hesher, talks back to his father and stands up to the bully. He goes all the way to the junkyard to occupy the about-to-be-scraped car in which his mother died. At the same time, Hesher emerges as a scummy descendant of "Zorba the Greek" or the Maude of "Harold and Maude." □

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'Everything must go': A life turned inside out

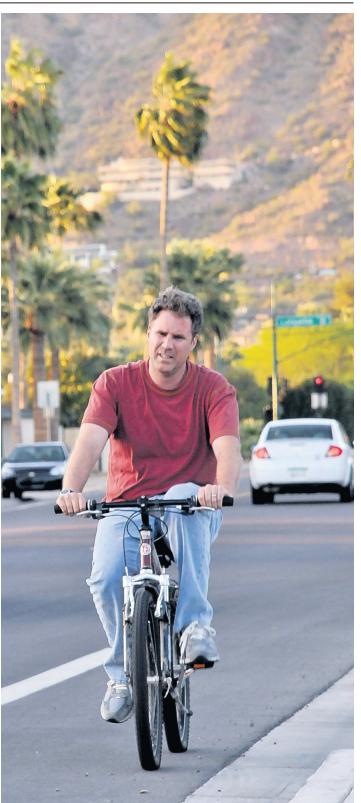
A.O. SCOTT

© 2011 New York Times

"Everything Must Go" is the story of a middle-class man hitting bottom, for reasons that are both as obvious as the empty beer cans that pile up around him and as elusive as the never-seen wife who has just walked out of his life. In a single day the man, a midlevel Arizona sales executive named Nick Halsey (Will Ferrell), loses his job and returns home to find that the locks on his house have been changed, his bank account frozen and all his stuff piled in the front yard.

This sad, surreal spectacle of domesticity turned literally inside out — lamps sitting in the sunlight, a recliner where a lawn chair should be — is what links "Everything Must Go" to its source, a short story by Raymond Carver called "Why Don't You Dance?" The story, like so many of Carver's, is a jagged shard of painful absurdity, a glimpse of the human condition that the film, written and directed by Dan Rush, expands into a picture window. From a few pages of oblique dialogue and terse prose, Rush extrapolates a narrative that is less jarring and more familiar than anything in Carver, but nonetheless true to the writer's tough, compassionate and intimately knowing apprehension of masculine defeat.

Ferrell turns out to be an almost perfect embodiment of this theme. He is large, a little ungainly and charismatic without quite being handsome, and somehow able to seem at once exquisitely self-conscious and utterly obtuse. □



An undated handout of Will Ferrell in "Everything Must Go" a 2010 film directed by Dan Rush. "Everything Must Go" adapts and fills in the blanks of the Raymond Carver story "Why Don't You Dance?"

(John Estes/Roadside Attractions via The New York Times)

SPORTS

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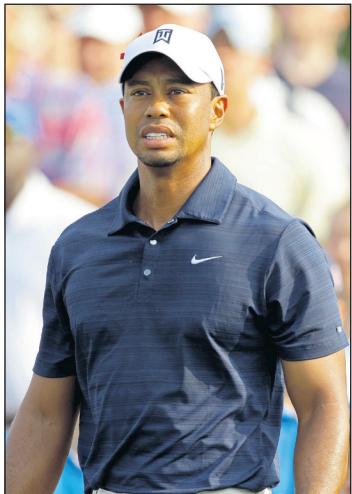


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Friday, May 13 2011

Woods Withdraws



Tiger Woods

By DOUG FERGUSON,
AP Golf Writer

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Florida (AP) — Coming off his worst performance in nearly a year, Nick Watney looked better than ever Thursday in The Players Championship with an 8-under 64 that put him atop the leaderboard. Coming off what he described as a "minor injury," Tiger Woods looked to be in big trouble.

Nine holes into his first tournament since the Masters, the former No. 1 player in the world said he couldn't go on. Woods withdrew after his highest nine-hole score at this event — a 42 — and had no idea when he might return.

"I'm having a hard time walking," Woods said.

Watney opened with three straight birdies, didn't let a double bogey slow his momentum, and finished with his best score ever on the TPC Sawgrass — his previous best was a 68 — to take a one-shot lead over Lucas Glover, who won last week at Quail Hollow.

The surprise came from 54-year-old Mark O'Meara, who qualified by winning the Seniors Player Championship and who played nine holes of practice rounds with Woods the last two days.

Continued on Page B3

Shields hurls Rays to win



Tampa Bay Rays
starter James Shields
pitches for a win
against the Indians in
Cleveland.

Next Page

AL Roundup

Shields finally beats Indians, hurls Rays to win

CLEVELAND (AP) — James Shields pitched seven strong innings to finally beat Cleveland as the Tampa Bay Rays continued to impress away from home with a 7-4 win over the Indians in the American League on Thursday.

Tampa Bay has won 10 of 11 on the road and owns the majors' best mark away from home at 13-5. The Rays are 21-7 overall following a 1-8 start.

Cleveland lost for just the second time in 16 home games. Shields (4-1) gave up two runs and scattered seven hits. He came in 0-4 in six career starts against Cleveland, the only AL team he had never beaten. He improved to 4-0 with 1.12 ERA in his last five starts overall.

Reid Brignac, Sam Fuld and Evan Longoria had two RBIs



Cleveland Indians base runner Orlando Cabrera is picked off second by Tampa Bay Rays second baseman Elliot Johnson in the sixth inning in Cleveland on Thursday, May 12, 2011. The Rays went on to win 7-4.

apiece as the Rays handed Justin Masterson (5-1) his first loss.

NL Roundup

(AP Photo/Amy Sancetta)

Garcia improves to 5-0, Cardinals rout Cubs 9-1

CHICAGO (AP) — Unbeat-

en Jaime Garcia pitched seven effective innings and Matt Holliday homered to start an early burst that sent the St. Louis Cardinals to a 9-1 victory over the Chicago Cubs in the National League on Thursday.

Garcia (5-0), who carried a perfect game into the eighth in his previous start against Milwaukee, allowed one run and nine hits.

He complemented his 84-pitch outing at Wrigley Field by hitting an RBI single.

St. Louis finished with 16 hits and took two of three in the series without manager Tony La Russa, who is back in St. Louis recovering from shingles. Holliday led off a five-run second with his fifth homer, a long shot off Casey Coleman (1-3) that cleared the bleachers in left field. □

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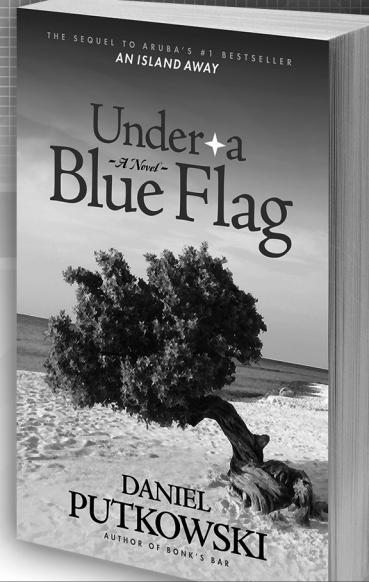


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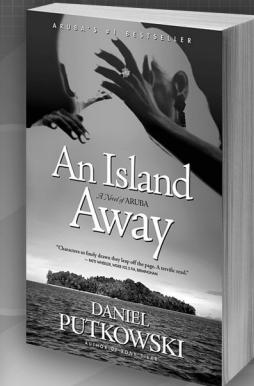
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Nick Watney opens with a 64 as Woods exits early

Continued from Page B1

He finished with a long birdie on the 18th for a 66 in his first round at Sawgrass in eight years. "Even when I went to dinner with Tiger last night, my wife Meredith said, 'How's Mark hitting it?' He says, 'Short.' OK, yeah, I'm not 32 and strong," O'Meara said. "But I hit it far enough." Davis Toms also had a 66, and he managed to do that without a single bogey on his card.

Watney had not missed the cut since last June when he had rounds of 76-75 for an early departure last week at Quail Hollow. Instead of letting it get him down, he came to Florida to practice and then came out firing.

"Last week in Charlotte, I got



Tiger Woods hits from the sand on the sixth hole during the first round of The Players Championship golf tournament Thursday May 12, 2011 in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla. Woods withdrew from the tournament after nine holes.

(AP Photo/Chris O'Meara)

off to a bad start and I never really righted the ship," Watney said. "So today to have a bad hole like that and still play a good round is a rewarding feeling, just because I didn't let it affect the rest of my day."

PGA champion Martin Kaymer, who can return to No. 1 in the world by winning or finishing alone in second this week, opened with a 67 and became part of the biggest news of the day.

He was in the group with Matt Kuchar and Woods, although it became a twosome on the back nine when Woods left.

"Nobody really knows how much pain he was in," Kaymer said. "He was walking really slowly. He was walking behind us. But I didn't know that it was because of pain or I just thought that he walks a little slower than me."

Also at 67 was Rory Sab-



Nick Watney hits from the ninth tee during the first round of The Players Championship golf tournament, Thursday, May 12, 2011, in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla. Watney finished Thursday with an 8-under 64 that put him atop the leaderboard.

(AP Photo/Chris O'Meara)

batini, U.S. Open champion Graeme McDowell and Alvaro Quiros of Spain. Ryder Cup captain Davis Love III, a two-time winner of this prestigious event, had a 68, along with Ben Crane.

Crane is significant for the bogey he made in the opening round. On the infamous is-

land-green 17th, Crane caught a gust of wind as the ball was in flight and it took over the green. But the ball landed on the back of the wooden frame and bounced so far that it cleared the water and landed among the spectators. He then faced a scary pitch back to the island and hit the bulkhead in about the same spot, the ball rolling to the front of the green. He two-putted from 50 feet for his bogey, which could have been much worse. "A crazy day, a crazy game," Crane said. It was crazy, all right. There was Woods leaving early, Charley Hoffman breaking his putter after missing a short one, and Phil Mickelson looking dismayed as a shot that landed on the 13th green rolled into the water.

"I didn't know it could possibly go in the water," Mickelson said after a 71. "I think

when I design golf courses, I try not to screw the player like that. I try to keep it a little bit fair. But those things happen." Fortunes can turn quickly, as Watney showed.

He was never in the hunt at Quail Hollow and never looked particularly happy. But he was grinning and laughing with swing coach Butch Harmon on the range, and he came out firing.

"I was definitely disappointed," Watney said. "But I figured there were two ways to react — you either sulk about it or come here. I flew here Saturday, did a little bit of work Sunday, just figured I'd get on with it and use it as motivation." He holed a 15-foot putt on the 10th hole, got up-and-down from the bunker on the par-5 11th and nearly holed his approach on the 12th. □

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matinee: 12:45 - 3:00

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Russia reaches semis by beating Canada at worlds

By KAREL JANICEK,
Associated Press

BRATISLAVA, Slovakia (AP) — Russia eliminated Olympic champion Canada 2-1 to reach the semifinals of the ice hockey world championship on Thursday.

Russia will play Finland in Friday's semis, and the Czech Republic will meet Sweden. Alexei Kaigorodov and Ilya Kovalchuk scored late for Russia to overcome the Canadians.

"It doesn't really matter for me who scores the goal," said Kovalchuk after his first goal at the worlds. "We just want to win. We showed some character."

"We need to recover tonight and it's going to be a big game tomorrow."

Canada captain Rick Nash was disappointed.

"That's tough," Nash said. "It takes one game, one period, couple minutes here and there and you could be out of it."

It was the first loss for Canada at this year's tournament while Russia lost to Germany, Finland and the Czech Republic in the group stage before



Yevgeni Artyukhin, left, from Russia trips Canada's Cal Clutterbuck, right, during their quarterfinal Hockey World Championships match in Bratislava, Slovakia, Thursday, May 12, 2011. Russia won the match 2-1 and advanced to semi-final.

reaching the playoffs.

"They got two goals, it was just a bad 10 minutes, it was unfortunate it was the last 10 minutes of the game," Nash said.

Canada's Jason Spezza opened the scoring after collecting a pass from Alex Pietrangelo

on the blue line to net a break-away goal 5:32 into the middle period.

Kaigorodov equalized 9:07 into the final period with a short-handed goal on a break-away, and Kovalchuk scored with 7:41 remaining.

"It's not very good that two

(AP Photo/Petr David Josek)

such big hockey nations meet in the quarterfinals because one of the two teams has to go home," Russia coach Vyacheslav Bykov said.

"We're happy to win and hope to keep it that way."

"It's an awful feeling," Canada's Dion Phaneuf said. "We

came here to win and we came up short. It's very disappointing."

Canada recorded nine shots on goal in the first five minutes while Russia had none. Overall, Canada outshot Russia 37-20.

Canada goalie Jonathan Bernier stopped 18 shots while Russia goalie Konstantin Barulin made 36 saves.

Russia topped Canada for the second straight year after winning 5-2 in the quarters at last year's worlds. Russia, seeking its 26th world title also beat Canada in the finals of 2008 and '09. "Both teams played their hearts out," Canada coach Ken Hitchcock said.

"We made a couple of mistakes in the third period ... we couldn't stretch the 1-nothing lead once we had it. It was a very emotional and tense game. The difference in the game was at the end of the day some of the best players of Russia stepped it up in the third period when they needed to and played very well."

Jarkko Immonen scored twice to help Finland beat Norway 4-1. □

Hopkins-McNabb feud lingers

By DAN GELSTON,
AP Sports Writer

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — NFL player Donovan McNabb's agent has released a statement that says former middleweight boxing champion Bernard Hopkins' insinuations about McNabb not being black enough "are dangerous and irresponsible."

Hopkins says McNabb, the former Philadelphia Eagles quarterback, doesn't have heart or wasn't tough like other NFL players because he had a privileged upbringing.

McNabb and his agent Fletcher Smith decided to counterpunch with a statement Thursday.

"It perpetuates a maliciously inaccurate stereotype that insinuates those African-Americans who have access to a wider variety of resources are somehow culturally different than their brethren," Smith said.

At a workout this week for his upcoming fight, Hopkins took time before a sparring session to rip McNabb.

Referencing skin color, Hopkins said McNabb has, "got a suntan, that's all."

Hopkins has long claimed McNabb wasn't the right quarterback to lead the Eagles to a Super Bowl championship because he didn't have heart. Now, Hopkins says that's because McNabb was raised in a modest suburb outside of Chicago, and not the gritty south side of the

city. Hopkins was raised in a more rough-and-ruthless part of North Philadelphia.

Reached by phone Thursday, Hopkins refused to soften his stance on McNabb.

"Look at professional boxing. I've never seen a suburban boxer be successful," Hopkins said.

"There has to be something in the DNA of the person's experience, of what they overcame, to have that grit; like, I'm going to bite down and let it happen. I just didn't see that in him."

Hopkins will fight Jean Pascal for the light heavyweight championship May 21 in Montreal.

If the 46-year-old Hopkins wins, he'll become the oldest boxer to win a world title.

At the end of a nearly 40-minute press session on Tuesday, Hopkins joked that with the Flyers and 76ers out of the playoffs and the Phillies' season still months from the pennant race, he is Philadelphia's sports "franchise."

"With McNabb out of town, I ain't got to worry about that no more," Hopkins said.

Hopkins was then asked what he thought about Eagles quarterback Michael Vick, who, like Hopkins, was raised in an impoverished community and spent time in prison. Vick served 18 months in federal prison for running a dogfighting ring. Hopkins started boxing in a Pennsylvania state prison, where he served five years beginning at the age of 17. □

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England launches probe into FIFA corruption claims

By ROB HARRIS,
AP Sports Writer

LONDON (AP) — England's Football Association is opening its own investigation into claims of FIFA corruption during the bidding for the 2018 World Cup.

FA chairman David Bernstein says the body has hired a leading lawyer to look into allegations of ethical misconduct by four FIFA executive committee members during England's failed bid.

Former FA chairman David Triesman told a British parliamentary hearing on Tuesday that the behavior of the four FIFA officials was "improper and unethical."

The FA has already agreed to send any evidence to FIFA, but the English body wants its own independent inquiry to rule on the validity of Triesman's claims.

Bernstein announced the appointment of lawyer James Dingemans to head the probe. He says that, like FIFA's own inquiry, the outcome should be revealed before the presidential election on June 1.

FIFA President Sepp Blatter is seeking re-election against challenger Mohamed bin Hammam of Qatar.

"If Lord Triesman's allegations can't be supported they will die a death because unsupported allegations will not take anyone very far," Bernstein said in a briefing at Wembley Stadium. "Like any quasi-legal process you need evidence. If the allegations are to stick with FIFA ... they need to be supported."

"We want to come up with the truth and verifiable facts. Lord Triesman has had a great career as chairman of the FA and is a man of honor. He's made his allegations. No doubt they can be sustained but whether they can be sustained with proper evidence or not we will have to see."

Triesman — a member of the House of Lords — made the allegations about Jack Warner, Nicolas Leoz, Ricardo Teixeira and Worawi Makudi to the British parliament's Culture, Media and Sport committee. □

Italian Open:

Federer loses; Djokovic, Nadal advance



Serbia's Novak Djokovic returns the ball to Switzerland's Stanislas Wawrinka during the Italian Open tennis tournament, in Rome, Thursday, May 12, 2011.

By ANDREW DAMPF,
AP Sports Writer

ROME (AP) — Roger Federer's French Open preparation took a hit with a 4-6, 7-6 (2), 7-6 (4) loss to 16th-seeded Richard Gasquet in the third round of the Italian Open on Thursday.

Federer had won his last eight meetings against Gasquet but made a series of uncharacteristic errors from the baseline as the match wore on to let the Frenchman draw even and eventually take control.

"I definitely feel I should never have lost this match," Federer said.

"I just couldn't come up with the shots."

Meanwhile, Novak Djokovic continued his assault on the No. 1 ranking with a 6-4, 6-1 win over 14th-seeded Stanislas Wawrinka, extending his winning streak to 36 matches. Djokovic has won all 34 of his matches this year, trailing only John McEnroe's 42-0 start in 1984 in the Open era. The Serb can claim the top ranking from Rafael Nadal if he wins this tournament and Nadal fails to reach the semi-finals.

Djokovic's quarterfinal opponent will be fifth-seeded Robin Soderling, who held on to beat ninth-seeded Nicolas Almagro 6-3, 3-6, 6-4.

Earlier, Nadal overcame a virus to beat fellow Spaniard Feliciano Lopez 6-4, 6-2. The start of the match was delayed by about 20 minutes as Nadal considered withdrawing.

"I had a fever last night and this morning I didn't feel better," Nadal said. "I didn't know if I was going to go on the court for the match. I decided at the last moment."

In his opening match on Wednesday, Nadal struggled past 148th-ranked qualifier Paolo Lorenzi in three sets.

"I didn't understand why I felt so slow yesterday, why I had

(AP Photo/Riccardo De Luca)

no energy. I understand today," Nadal said.

To be assured of keeping his No. 1 ranking for at least one more week, Nadal will need to beat Marin Cilic of Croatia in the quarterfinals.

Fourth-ranked Andy Murray advanced with a 6-2, 6-3 win over Potito Starace of Italy, and will next meet Florian Mayer of Germany, who beat Juan Ignacio Chela 7-5, 6-4. Gasquet's quarterfinal opponent will be seventh-seeded Tomas Berdych, who held off Finnish qualifier Jarkko Nieminen 6-2, 6-7 (4), 6-2.

This tournament is a key warmup event for the French Open, which starts in 10 days, and it is one of only three Masters Series events that Federer has never won.

Federer didn't seem to think the loss would affect his performance at Roland Garros.

"I'll definitely be happy to take two, three, four days off to get mentally fresh and then practice very hard," he said. "There's no reason to panic."

It looked like Federer was going to advance easily when he won 10 straight points to open the encounter, but the 16-time Grand Slam winner squandered a 4-2 lead in the second set, then failed to convert two break points that would have given him a chance to serve out the match.

Federer missed several backhands in the second-set tie-breaker and floated another backhand long on Gasquet's first match point in the deciding tiebreaker.

In all, Federer committed 30 unforced errors to Gasquet's 19.

"I had multiple chances," Federer said. "It's disappointing. ... I probably never felt I was going to win the breaker — it's tough to play that way."

The match was delayed for about 10 minutes early in the second set when water mysteriously began leaking onto the corner of the court. □

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Tournament starts at 7:00pm			Free-out Tournament Buy in: \$100 4000 chips	

HEALTH

Aruba TODAY

Earlier HIV therapy protects against virus spread



A HIV patient holds some anti-retroviral drugs. If an HIV patient takes antiretroviral drug therapy immediately, it vastly reduces the risk of transmitting the disease to an uninfected partner, according to a breakthrough global study.

Are C-sections fueling the obesity epidemic?

NEW YORK – Young adults born via Cesarean section are more likely to be obese than those delivered vaginally, suggesting C-sections could be feeding the obesity epidemic, researchers have found.

But the theory is controversial. One expert cautioned that scientists are still a long way from pinning the expanding waistlines on higher rates of C-sections.

In the new study, Brazilian researchers found that among more than 2,000 23- to 25-year-olds, 15 percent of those delivered via C-section were obese compared to 10 percent of those born naturally.

The team looked at a number of other factors that could potentially explain the connection, like heavier birth weight, or income and education levels (more-educated mothers had a higher C-section rate).

But even after accounting for these factors, C-section remained linked to a 58-percent increase in the risk of adulthood obesity, according Dr. Helena Goldani and colleagues.

The findings do not prove cause-and-effect, Goldani, of Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul in Porto Alegre, told Reuters Health in an email. And there could still be other explanations for the finding, she said.

Still, it's possible that C-sections could directly affect the risk of becoming obese later in life, the researchers speculate.

That's because infants born via C-section are not exposed to the beneficial bacteria in the birth canal, and so they might take longer to accumulate Bifidobacteria and other microbes that could influence their metabolism.

Similarly, obese adults tend to have fewer of those friendly bacteria in their digestive tract than normal-weight people do. □

By L. NEERGAARD,
AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON – A major study finds that treating HIV patients early, before they're too sick, dramatically lowers their chances of spreading the AIDS virus to a sexual partner. The nine-country study confirms what scientists have long believed, that HIV medicines don't just benefit patients' own health but act as prevention by making those people less infectious. Earlier treatment meant patients were 96 percent less likely to spread HIV to their uninfected partner.

The findings were striking enough that the National Institutes of Health announced Thursday it was stopping the study four years ahead of schedule to get the word out. Condoms still are crucial for

protection. All 1,763 couples in the study, where one partner had HIV and the other didn't, were urged to use them.

But the findings promise to play a role in an important: Antiviral drugs are life-saving, but also expensive and side effect-prone, so how early should patients start taking them? In the U.S., that's a case-by-case decision for patients whose immune systems so far are moderately damaged by HIV.

In developing countries, patients tend to be sicker before treatment starts.

The study may change those guidelines by adding the promise of partner protection. "It has less to do with a decision about what's good for you from a personal health standpoint than what is the extra added benefit from start-

ing earlier, i.e., transmission, especially if you have a partner who's uninfected," said Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of NIH's National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, which oversaw the study.

The study randomly divided the couples. Among half, the HIV-infected partner immediately started medication. Among the other half, the infected partner delayed medication until their level of CD4 cells, a key measure of immune health, dropped below 250 or they caught other AIDS-related illnesses.

In 28 couples, the uninfected partner became infected with a strain of HIV that scientists could prove came from the originally infected partner. Only one of those infections was among the early-treated couples, Fauci said. □

Ukrainian cancer patients denied pain relief

By MARIA DANILOVA,
Associated Press

CHERKASY, Ukraine – When his brain cancer pain became unbearable, Vlad Zhukovsky pleaded for a stronger dose of painkiller, but the doctors refused, citing Ukrainian health regulations. Unable to withstand the agony, he tried to jump out of a hospital window, but a fellow patient held him back.

"He wanted to fall head down to be killed right away to stop the torture, that's how much his head hurt," his 50-year-old mother Nadezhda said sobbing. "He howled like a wolf." Hundreds of thousands of Ukrainians who suffer from terminal illnesses are denied proper pain relief, Human Rights Watch said in a report Thursday, urging Ukrainian authorities to adopt international guidelines for pain management.



In this undated photo made available by Scott Anger & Bob Sacha for the Open Society Foundations, in Cherkasy, Ukraine, Nadezhda Zhukovsky, 50, kisses her sleeping son Vlad, who died of brain cancer last year at age 27, before going to the local pharmacy for medical supplies.

Associated Press

"These people are crossed out from life even before death," said Viktor Paramonov, head doctor at the Cherkasy Regional Oncology Center in central Ukraine. Rooted in archaic Soviet-era restrictions and a government campaign to fight illegal drug use,

Ukrainian regulations for the use of opioid-based analgesics are among the strictest in the world. Unlike most countries, where patients receive morphine in tablets, the drug is administered in Ukraine only in injectable form and only by a professional nurse. □

White House to unveil cybersecurity proposal

WASHINGTON – The White House issued a proposal on Thursday to secure critical U.S. infrastructure and federal computer networks that aims to fend off attackers while assuring the privacy of Internet users.

A legislative proposal from the

Obama administration calls for the Department of Homeland Security to formally take over the job of ensuring the federal government's computers are protected, including oversight of intrusion detection and prevention systems. It would also require that se-

curity standards of many government contractors be updated.

The proposal is aimed at attacks from U.S. sources and overseas, including many believed to originate in China. The White House proposal is expected to give new impetus to a long-running cybersecurity debate in the Congress. "The cybersecurity vulnerabilities in our government and critical infrastructure are a risk to national security, public safety, and economic prosperity," the White House said in a statement.

"The administration has responded to Congress' call for input on the cybersecurity legislation that our nation needs, and we look forward to engaging with Congress as they move forward on this issue."

Senate Democratic Leader Harry Reid's office has taken the lead in Congress on cybersecurity, putting together bills sponsored by Commerce Committee Chairman Jay Rockefeller and Homeland Security Chairman Joe Lieberman, chair of the

China piracy cost software industry \$20bn in 2010



A pirated copy of Microsoft Windows Vista readily available in southern China is shown in Hong Kong.

BEIJING – Piracy cost the global software industry more than \$20 billion in losses in the China market last year despite the increasing use of legitimate programmes, an official survey showed Thursday.

Pirated software is estimated to have cost the industry 130.9 billion yuan (\$20.1 billion) in 2010, up 1.55 percent from a year ago, according to the survey funded by the State Intellectual Property Office.

That accounted for nine percent of China's total software market, down from 12 percent in 2009, according to the survey, which covered more than 4,800 individual and corporate respondents across the country.

"The use of legitimate software is increasing steadily," said the survey, conducted by Internet research firm Chinalabs. The decline in the rate of piracy was due to factors including the emergence of homegrown, low-cost legitimate software, the increasing number of free programmes on offer and a more diversified distribution network, it said.

Programming tools, industry-specific software, and Microsoft's Office package and similar products were the most often pirated, followed by software for web page design and security management, it added.

China's counterfeit and piracy market is the biggest in the world, and copyright infringement in the country has long been a sticking point in Sino-US relations.

The United States earlier this month said China was making progress on improving protection of intellectual property rights but voiced concern about Beijing's longer term commitment. It kept the country on this year's "priority watch list" for weak protection of intellectual property rights.



President Barack Obama speaks at the National Hispanic Prayer Breakfast in Washington, Thursday, May 12, 2011.

(AP Photo/Charles Dharapak)

Homeland Security Committee.

An administration official said the White House would like Congress to enact a cybersecurity bill this year, after a broad discussion including representatives from industry, privacy advocates and the wider community.

Computer hackers are responsible for attacks on millions of computers, putting in jeopardy critical systems operated by the U.S. government, electrical utilities and financial companies.

Senate Democrats introduced new legislation in February after reports of attacks on computer networks at Nasdaq OMX Group and five multinational oil and gas companies. In April, U.S. authorities shut down a ring that used malicious software to take control of more than 2 million personal computers around the world that may have led to the theft of more than \$100 million.

An administration official said the White House proposal was the result of 2-1/2 years of work. □

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Job gains should offset higher gas and food prices



FILE - In this May 5, 2011 file photo, contractor Mylan Johnson pumps gas into his truck at the Marathon Station in Moreland Hills, Ohio.

Associated Press
By M. CRUTSINGER
C. S. RUGABER,
AP Economics Writers
WASHINGTON — Consumers spent more in April, but most of their money went to pay higher food and gas prices. The rising cost of basic necessities is threatening to slow economic growth in the coming months. But hiring gains are the best in five years, commodity prices are easing, and gas prices could follow in the weeks ahead. Economists say the stronger job market will offset the impact of inflation and drive the

The Labor Department said its producer price index, which measures price changes before they reach the consumer, rose 0.7 percent. But after taking out volatile food and energy categories, core wholesale prices increased only 0.3 percent, the same gain as the previous month.

Fuel prices have been surging in recent months. The nationwide average for gas has hovered slightly below \$4 per gallon. Economists are worried that higher fuel costs will leave motorists with less money to spend on other discretionary goods. That would slow economic growth.

Consumers are paying more for food, too. Grocery stores sales jumped 1.5 percent, according to the retail sales data. That's triple the March increase and a reflection of higher prices.

More expensive gas boosted retail sales 0.5 percent in April, the 10th straight month of gains. But excluding gas station sales, the increase was only 0.2 percent, the Commerce Department said Thursday. Companies also paid more for raw materials and factory goods in April, mostly because energy prices jumped for the seventh straight month. □

AP-GfK poll:

Americans more upbeat about economy

By JIM KUHNHENN,
Associated Press
WASHINGTON — Americans are growing more optimistic about the U.S. economy, a sentiment that is benefiting President Barack Obama despite public disenchantment with his handling of rising gasoline prices and swollen government budget deficits. An Associated Press-GfK poll shows that more than 2 out of 5 people believe the U.S. economy will get better, while a third think it will stay the same and nearly a fourth think it will get worse, a rebound from last month's more pessimistic attitude. And, for the first time since the 100-day mark of his presidency, slightly more than half approve of Obama's stewardship of the economy. Both findings represent a boost for Obama, though he still must overcome ill will over government red ink and

the price of gas at the pump, now hovering around \$4 a gallon.

But the public's brighter economic outlook also could signal a boost to the current recovery, which relies to a great degree on consumer behavior. A public that is confident about economic performance is more likely to spend more and accelerate the economy's resurgence.

The poll was conducted May 5-9 in the aftermath of the U.S. commando raid that killed Osama bin Laden, the al-Qaida leader behind the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. The spike in public esteem for Obama as a result of that successful clandestine mission may have helped Obama's standing on issues other than national security.

[For complete coverage of politics and policy, go to Yahoo! Politics]
The poll coincides with re-

newed attention in Washington to the nation's growing debt and the federal government's long-term budget deficits, so any positive signs from the public could help Obama push his policy proposals. A bipartisan team of lawmakers is working with Vice President Joe Biden to identify spending cuts. Meanwhile, lawmakers also are discussing major structural changes to the tax system and to the government's mammoth benefits programs of Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security.

The results of the AP-GfK poll stood out because other surveys taken after bin Laden's death, while showing a spike in support for the president, continued to indicate dissatisfaction by a majority for his handling of the economy. Still, like the AP-GfK poll, other surveys also found American attitudes about the state of the nation improving. □

BUSINESS Aruba TODAY

Stocks edge higher as commodity slide eases



A trader leans on a phone post on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange Thursday, May 12, 2011.

Ran Copper & Gold Inc. reversed its losses from the morning and was up 1 percent in afternoon trading.

Energy companies remained lower. ConocoPhillips fell 1.7 percent, extending a 2.3 percent drop over the past week. The drop in oil prices translates into declining revenues for energy companies. Stock trading has been affected by huge moves in commodities markets over the past two weeks, including a 9 percent drop in the price of oil a week ago and a 27 percent plunge in the price of silver last week.

The volatility in commodities and stocks led investors to park money in less risky and more stable assets like government bonds. Commodities and stocks have both benefited from the Federal Reserve's program to boost the economy by buying \$600 billion in Treasury bonds. The Fed's program had the effect of pushing yields on government bonds lower, encouraging investors to move money into stocks and commodities.

With the Fed's effort coming to an end in June, the same investments are likely to fall, said Doug Roberts, the chief investment strategist for Channel Capital Research.

"When the Fed pulls back, investors cut back," Roberts said. Cisco Systems Inc. fell 4.9 percent. Higher energy costs also pushed wholesale prices up 0.8 percent in April. That marked the seventh month in a row that companies had to pay more for raw materials. □

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Oil settles higher on weaker dollar

By CHRIS KAHN,
AP Energy Writer

NEW YORK — Oil rose Thursday in volatile trading to settle near \$99 per barrel, with a weaker dollar offsetting concerns about a slowdown in world demand. Gas pump prices also rose as flooding on the Mississippi River threatened supplies in some parts of the country.

Benchmark crude for June delivery gained 76 cents to settle at \$98.97 per barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Oil has swung wildly this week — between \$95 and \$104 a barrel — as economists and traders try to gauge how much oil the world will need this year. A weaker dollar boosted oil on Thursday. Crude is traded in dollars, so the price tends to increase as the dollar weakens and makes oil cheaper for investors holding foreign money. The U.S. Dollar Index, which measures the dollar against other major

currencies, dropped 0.3 percent in afternoon trading.

At the pump, gasoline rose another 2.2 cents on Thursday to \$3.984 per gallon, according to AAA, Wright Express and Oil Price Information Service. A gallon of regular is 19.3 cents higher than a month ago and \$1.088 more than the same time last year.

Tom Kloza, chief oil analyst for OPIS, said that pump prices are still falling along the West Coast, in the Rockies and in New England.

The national average increased, he said, mainly because of price hikes in the Midwest and the Southeast, where Mississippi River flooding will make it harder for refineries to transport gasoline to wholesale markets.

Kloza and other analysts think pump

prices will fall across the country, to about \$3.50 a gallon by the end of the month, once flooding and other problems that have slowed some refinery produc-

tion are cleared. On Thursday the Labor Department said rising energy prices made raw materials and factory goods more expensive in April. And the Commerce Department reported that consumer spending increased last month, with most of the increase going to higher food and gas prices. □

Ghosh said production at Nissan plants worldwide will be back at pre-disaster levels by October, after which the company will make up for lost production. He did not give an earnings forecast for the current fiscal year through March 2012, but promised projections would be ready by a shareholders' meeting in June. □

Alon Refining Krotz Springs said late Wednesday that its operation in Krotz Springs, La., "may be disrupted" if the Army Corps of Engineers opens the Morganza spillway to take the pressure off levees protecting Baton Rouge. Other refineries said they're watching water lev-

els closely and have

lined their facilities with sandbags as a

precaution.

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last month, with most of the increase go-

ing to higher food and gas prices. □

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Kohl's 1Q profit climbs, lifts full-year outlook

NEW YORK — Kohl's Corp.'s first-quarter net income climbed 6 percent as its move to control expenses like inventory and strength in its store-label brands made up for a more modest revenue increase overall.

The company also raised its full-year earnings outlook Thursday, partly on optimism it will be able to pass on higher costs for raw materials like cotton.

Lingering cool temperatures in the Northeast and Midwest chilled sales of seasonal items like clothing. But the department store retailer said it expects clothing sales to improve as the weather warms up.

"We have strengthened our marketing for the second quarter and believe that we will see some pent-up demand for seasonal businesses," said Kevin Mansell, chairman, president and CEO said on a conference call with investors.

"Our customer is very focused on buying close to need. And so when she doesn't have need, which she really didn't have in March and April, she delays buying."

The chain is also counting on its new exclusive brands from entertainers Jennifer Lopez and Marc Anthony to draw customers. Kohl's says they're the first celebrity couple to simultaneously design collections for one retailer. The lines will launch this fall. □

China raises bank reserves to cool inflation

BEIJING — China ordered most of its banks on Thursday to increase the amount of money they hold in reserves in a new move to curb inflation after higher-than-expected price rises in April.

The central bank's order was the fifth reserve increase this year and came a day after the government reported April inflation was 5.3 percent. Stubbornly high inflation has frustrated communist leaders who have declared taming surging living costs their priority this year.

They have raised interest rates four times since October and ordered companies to restrain price rises.

The People's Bank of China ordered most banks to increase reserves by 0.5 percent of their deposits as of next Wednesday. That will raise reserves for the biggest institutions to 21 percent of deposits. Economists blame China's inflation spike on strong consumer demand that is outstripping food supplies and a flood of bank lending that was part of Beijing's stimulus following the 2008 global crisis. □

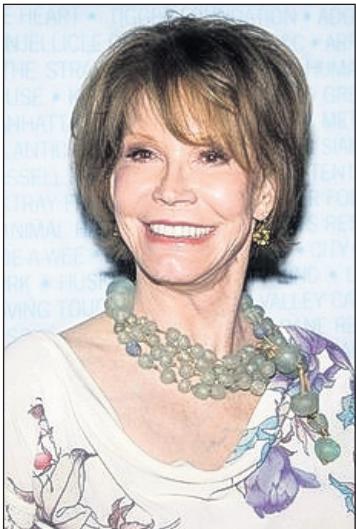
Nissan posts \$380 million quarterly profit

TOKYO — Nissan rounded out a record year for car sales by returning to profit in the fourth quarter but Chief Executive Carlos Ghosn acknowledged serious challenges from Japan's natural disasters.

The good news Thursday was clouded by uncertainties due to the damage from Japan's earthquake, tsunami and nuclear crises that have disrupted production for Nissan and other Japanese automakers. Nissan Motor Co., allied with Renault SA of France, reported a 30.77 billion yen (\$380 million) profit for January-March, a turnaround from a 11.6 billion yen loss a year earlier. Quarterly sales jumped 10 percent to 2.35 trillion yen (\$29 billion).

Ghosn said production at Nissan plants worldwide will be back at pre-disaster levels by October, after which the company will make up for lost production.

He did not give an earnings forecast for the current fiscal year through March 2012, but promised projections would be ready by a shareholders' meeting in June. □



FILE - In this July 11, 2009 file photo, actress Mary Tyler Moore attends Broadway Barks 11 in New York. (AP Photo/Charles Sykes, File)

Mary Tyler Moore to undergo brain tumor surgery

NEW YORK — A representative for Mary Tyler Moore says the veteran sitcom star will have surgery to remove a brain tumor.

Spokeswoman Alla Plotkin says Moore's doctors recommended the elective procedure after monitoring the tumor for some time. Plotkin did not say when the surgery would take place.

It would remove a meningioma (meh-NIN'-jee-OH-muh), a slow-growing tumor in the membranes that cover the brain. Meningiomas usually occur in older adults and are mostly benign.

The 74-year-old Moore gained stardom as a modern suburban housewife on the 1960s comedy "The Dick Van Dyke Show," then went on to headline her own successful series as a single woman pursuing a career.

Princess Beatrice's wedding hat to be auctioned



In this Friday, April 29, 2011 file picture Britain's Prince Andrew, center, and his daughters Britain's Princess Eugenie, left, and Britain's Princess Beatrice leave Westminster Abbey at the Royal Wedding in London.

Associated Press

By C. MORROW,
Associated Press

LONDON — The eye-popping hat worn by Princess Beatrice at Britain's royal wedding is to be auctioned to raise money for charity, Buckingham Palace said Thursday.

The famous creation — which some said looked like antlers — will be sold on eBay with the proceeds to go to the charities UNICEF and Children in Crisis. The hat was the handiwork of Britain's leading milliner, Philip Treacy, who designed many of the ladies' hats worn at the April 29 nuptials of Prince William and Kate Middleton, now known as the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. The unusual

design of the beige hat has sparked a Facebook fan page called "Princess Beatrice's ridiculous Royal Wedding hat," and one computer-altered picture showed President Barack Obama and his national security team all wearing the hat as they watched the commando raid on Osama bin Laden's compound in Pakistan.

The sale was announced by Beatrice's mother, Sarah Ferguson, on "The Oprah Winfrey Show." A palace spokesman confirmed the sale while speaking on condition of anonymity in line with policy. Many have said the hat looked outlandish, but Treacy has defended it in comments to the British press, saying Beatrice looked "gorgeous" at the wedding. Beatrice, 22, also defended it in a recent interview with Grazia magazine. She said it was "wonderful that it's had such a reaction." □



Britain's Queen Elizabeth smiles during a visit to the Centre for Applied Sciences at City and Islington College in north London, in this file picture taken March 30, 2011.

Queen Elizabeth becomes UK's second-longest reigning monarch

LONDON — Queen Elizabeth surpassed George III on Thursday to become the second-longest reigning British monarch in more than 1,000 years of history.

Only Queen Victoria -- whose relatives and descendants make up a who's who of European royalty across the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries -- spent more time on the throne.

The 85-year-old Elizabeth II, who acceded to the throne on February 6, 1952, has now ruled for 59 years and 95 days, more than every other monarch bar Victoria in more than 1,000 years of British history when leap-year days are included.

The longevity of her reign pushes George III, who was king from 1760 until 1820 during the period that the United States won independence from Britain, into third place.

George suffered from mental illness in the latter part of his life which was documented in the successful film "The Madness of King George."

Buckingham Palace said there would be no celebration to mark the occasion. "It's business as usual," a spokesman said. □

Will Ferrell wins top Mark Twain humor prize in DC



In this publicity image released by NBC, co-host Matt Lauer, left, talks to actor Will Ferrell on the 'Today' show during an appearance to promote his new movie 'Everything Must Go,' on Thursday, May 12, 2011 in New York.

(AP Photo/NBC, Peter Kramer)

By BRETT ZONGKER,
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Will Ferrell, who honed his impression of President George W. Bush on "Saturday Night Live" and crossed over to make a career in movies, will win the nation's top humor prize from the Kennedy Center in Washington.

The 14th annual Mark Twain Prize for American Humor was announced Thursday. Ferrell will be honored Oct. 23 with a lineup of star comedy performances.

Guitarist for R&B, jazz greats dies in Fort Worth

FORT WORTH, Texas — Cornell Dupree Jr., a guitarist who played on R&B and jazz hits with artists including Aretha Franklin and Miles Davis, has died. He was 68.

Dupree died Sunday at home in Fort Worth. His funeral is set for Friday.

Just out of high school, he went to work in Manhattan with saxophonist King Curtis Ousley, another Fort Worth native.

Dupree, who went on to be a studio player, played guitar on "Respect" by Franklin, "Rainy Night in Georgia" by Brook Benton and "Memphis Soul Stew" by King Curtis.

He toured with Franklin's band from the late 1960s through the mid-1970s. His son, Cornell Dupree III, tells the Fort Worth Star-Telegram says most people don't know his father, but "there's not too many musicians who don't know him." □

Hugh Grant weighed as Charlie Sheen TV replacement



By LYNN ELBER,
AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES — Hugh Grant has been weighing a big move: replacing the fired Charlie Sheen on CBS' "Two and a Half Men."

A person familiar with the situation said Wednesday the British film actor was in negotiations to join the sitcom as its new leading man. The person, speaking on condition of anonymity because producer Warner Bros. and CBS hadn't authorized public comment, said the talks had stalled without resolution.

But it was unclear whether Grant's hiring was a closed issue, the person said. Reports that Grant had been offered \$1 million-plus an episode were inaccurate, the person said, adding any Sheen replacement

FILE - In this May 9, 2011 file photo, British actor Hugh Grant poses for the photographers as he arrives for the European premiere of the 'Fire in Babylon' film in central London.

Associated Press

would be paid less than that. Sheen was among TV's highest-paid actors at a reported \$1.8 million an episode.

Grant's publicist did not immediately return a call for comment. The actor, who became a star in romantic comedies including "Four Weddings and a Funeral" and "Notting Hill," hasn't appeared in a box-office hit for several years.

Warner, CBS and executive producer Chuck Lorre are attempting to find a new star and revamped format that would keep TV's top-rated and highly lucrative sitcom afloat without Sheen. With CBS set to unveil its fall schedule for advertisers in New York next Wednesday, the pressure is on to decide the show's future.

Speculation has swirled about who might join Jon Cryer and Angus T. Jones in the cast. Some actors seen as potential candidates, including John Stamos and Rob Lowe, have indicated their interests are elsewhere.

It's been more than two months since Warner fired Sheen in the show's eighth season, a move that followed the hard-living actor's bouts of wild partying, repeated hospitalizations and a bitter media campaign against his studio bosses who shut down production. □

Chicago prepares for life without Oprah Winfrey

By CARYN ROUSSEAU,
Associated Press

CHICAGO — Before Oprah Winfrey looks west to Los Angeles and her new cable station the talk show queen finds herself saying goodbye to her beloved Chicago.

"It feels like Scarlett leaving Tara," Winfrey told The Associated Press in December before the Oprah Winfrey Network's launch.

"When I first flew into Chicago on Labor Day 1983 to audition for 'A.M. Chicago,' I remember thinking when I left the city that if I don't get the job I'm gonna find a way to get back because I just love the city," she said.

There will be two difficult moments when "The Oprah Winfrey Show" ends, she said, saying goodbye to her viewers and saying goodbye to Chicago.

"Because it couldn't have happened without Chicago," she said. "It couldn't have happened without Chicago."

Winfrey came to Chicago in 1984 to WLS-TV's morning talk show, "A.M. Chicago." A month later the show was No. 1 in the market. A year later it was renamed "The Oprah Winfrey Show."

During those early days Winfrey had a small corner office with two rows of desks where her producers sat, remembers Joel Daly, a retired longtime news anchor for the ABC affiliate.

"You'd go down after her show and she'd be walking



FILE - In this Dec. 18, 1985 file photo, television talk-show host Oprah Winfrey puts her feet up as she relaxes in her studio office following a morning broadcast in Chicago, Ill. Winfrey came to Chicago in 1984 to WLS-TV's morning talk show, 'A.M. Chicago.'

(AP Photo/Charlie Knoblock, File)

around in a bathrobe and slippers," Daly said.

Winfrey outgrew those quarters, getting more studio space until she opened Harpo Studios on Chicago's West Loop neighborhood in 1990.

"We moved here 10 years ago to a section of Randolph Street that was pretty desolate, but it always felt safer because we knew Harpo was down the street," said Ina Pinkney, who owns the breakfast and lunch restaurant Ina's.

Winfrey is often given credit for transforming the once-gritty industrial enclave to a neighborhood filled with families pushing strollers and walking their dogs.

"When I told people I was

down the street from Oprah that was enough when you invoke her name you invoke a magic," Pinkney said. "She took a stand and she made this

neighborhood what it is."

Art Smith was once Winfrey's personal chef, a job he earned after cooking lunches for Winfrey at Harpo. He now is executive chef and co-owns Chicago's upscale Southern restaurant Table fifty-two.

Winfrey brought celebrities, politicians and other famous and interesting people to Chicago, Smith said. He remembers becoming star-struck when Winfrey told him former South African President Nelson Mandela was visiting. "You can't go any place in the world that doesn't know who Oprah Winfrey is or Chicago," Smith said. "She's been such an important part of the fabric of the city."

Winfrey was visible in Chicago, shutting down Michigan Avenue in September 2009 to film her season premiere with the Black Eyed Peas. □

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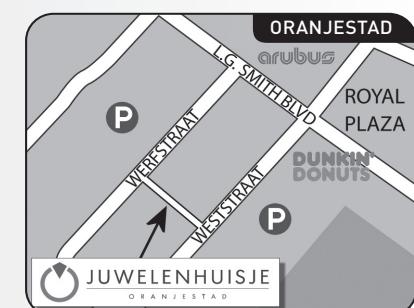
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8			5	1	9							
3	2	1				4	7					
			5				8					
			4	9				3	1			
					3			2				
1	9					8	5	2				
5		3	9				7					

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

3	8	9	1	2	7	5	4	6				
7	1	4	5	6	9	2	3	8				
2	5	6	3	4	8	7	9	1				
8	9	7	6	3	4	1	2	5				
1	6	5	9	7	2	3	8	4				
4	2	3	8	5	1	9	6	7				
9	3	1	7	8	6	4	5	2				
5	4	8	2	1	3	6	7	9				
6	7	2	4	9	5	8	1	3				

Yesterday's puzzle answer

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16			
17						18				19			
20				21		22		23					
24					25								
26	27	28			29		30		31	32	33		
34				35		36							
37			38		39				40				
41		42			43				44				
45					46			47					
48		49			50								
51	52	53				54				55	56	57	
58				59	60				61				
62			63			64							
65			66			67							

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

R	E	A	L	C	A	G	O	D	U	A	L		
A	X	L	E	A	L	I	E	N	I	S	L		
J	I	L	T	M	A	N	N	E	R	L	E	S	
A	T	E	H	E	R	D		E	U	R	O	S	
G	L	O	O	M					M	E	T		
F	L	A	I	R	S				R	E	D	E	
O	A	T	E	N	F	L	E	A	S	Y	E	T	
A	K	I	N	R	O	Y	A	L	R	E	D	O	
L	E	O	D	A	R	E	D	T	O	G	A	S	
S	N	O	O	Z	E				F	R	I	L	
V	I	E							M	O	L	A	
R	A	V	E	L					R	E	D	S	
E	M	E	R	Y	B	O	R	D	U	S	E	D	
A	M	I	D	R	A	N	G	E	S	E	D		
P	O	L	O	A	F	T	E	R	A	S	K	S	

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 10 Gave out, as prizes
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 13 Orange rind
 21 Pigeon's sound
 23 Buffalo
 25 Gizmos
 26 Venice's nation
 27 Motherless calf
 28 Sports building
 29 Old French coin
 31 Review the financial books
 32 Camel's smaller cousin
 33 Camry or Jetta
 35 Prefix with stop or conformist
 36 Tennis court divider
 38 Of the kidneys
 39 Horse's meal
 42 over; was gaga about
 43 Worked
 46 Nun's title
 47 Eunice, to JFK
 49 Slumbered
 50 In the alive and in person
 51 Breakfast order
 52 Actor Wyle
 53 At any regardless
 54 Commotions
 55 Impolite
 56 Seaweed
 57 Have to have
 60 Canada's neighbor; abbr.

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TELEVISION INVENTOR

John Logie Baird



This site is about John Logie Baird (1888-1946), the Scotsman who was the first person in the world to demonstrate a working television system. On January 26th, 1926, a viable television system was demonstrated using mechanical picture scanning with electronic amplification at the transmitter and at the receiver. It could be sent by radio or over ordinary telephone lines, leading to the historic trans-Atlantic transmissions of television from London to New York in February, 1928.

This site provides information not only on Baird and his life's work, but also on other pioneers of television and the development of the television industry to the present day. The What's New section is on recent events, anniversaries, publications etc. concerning Baird. The Contents list gives access to a gallery of longer articles, some of which go back to the early 1920s. At the end of Contents are the Links to information about other prominent figures in the history of television and excellent other websites on television history.

Updates are made to the site every few months by its creators Iain L. Baird and Malcolm H.I. Baird who are, respectively, the grandson and the son of J.L. Baird.

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The night sky in 37,440 exposures



In this Monday, May 9, 2011 photo, Nick Risinger poses for a photo in Seattle with the rack of six synchronized astrophotography cameras he used to create the photograph on the wall behind him.

(AP Photo/Ted S. Warren)

**By PHUONG LE,
Associated Press**

SEATTLE — Nick Risinger has always gazed up at the sky. But last year the amateur astronomer and photographer quit his day job as a Seattle marketing director and lugged six synchronized cameras about 60,000 miles to capture an image of the entire night

sky.

Risinger, 28, set up his rack of cameras in high-elevation locales in the Western U.S. and South Africa, timing photo shoots around new moons when nights were long and dark. He programmed his six cameras to track the stars as they moved across the sky and simultaneously snapped thou-

sands of photos. He then stitched 37,440 exposures together into a spectacular, panoramic survey sky that he posted online two weeks ago. The photo reveals a 360-degree view of the Milky Way, planets and stars in their true natural colors. Viewers can zoom in on portions of the 5,000-megapixel image to find Orion or the Large Magellanic Cloud.

"I wanted to share what I thought was possible," said Risinger, a first-time astrophotographer. "We don't see it like this. This is much brighter. On a good night in Seattle, you'll see 20 or 30 stars. This, in its full size, you'll see 20 to 30 million. Everything is amplified."

Other sky surveys have preceded this one, including the Digitized Sky Survey and Google Sky. Many serve scientific purposes and were shot in red and blue to measure the temperature of stars, Risinger said. He shot in a third color, green, to give the photo added depth and richness, he said. "What a labor of love it is!" said Andrew Fraknoi, senior educator at the Astronomical Society of the Pacific. "Professional astronomers are now doing much deeper surveys of small regions of the sky, using big telescopes. But every once in a while it's nice to step back and have such a beautiful photographic record of the

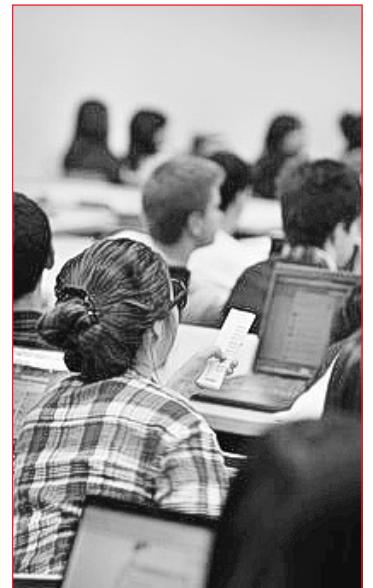
whole sky." "This is not a scientifically useful image. This is for educational and artistic appreciation," Risinger said, adding that he didn't want to make money off it. "It is for educational purposes. I want to develop some tools for the classroom."

To capture the entire night sky in a year, Risinger plotted out an exact schedule of images he needed from both the northern and southern hemisphere. He divided the sky into 624 uniform sections and entered those coordinates into the computer.

"The sheer amount of work was mind-boggling," he said at his apartment in Seattle. "It's not a wing-it kind of project. You have to plan how you're going to get the entire sky. And you do that by dividing it up into pieces and knowing what time you need to collect those pieces because as the Earth goes around the Sun, things come in and out of view."

In March of last year, Risinger and his older brother, Erik, traveled to the desert near Tonapah, Nev., and took the first photos of what eventually would become his Photopic Sky Survey.

When he realized the work was too monumental, Risinger quit his day job as a marketing director of a countertop company to devote himself full-time to the project. □



This undated handout photo, taken in 2010, provided by the University of British Columbia shows an unidentified student at the University of British Columbia using an interactive clicker in a classroom.

Associated press

Study:

It's not the teacher, but the method that matters

**By SETH BORENSTEIN,
AP Science Writer**

WASHINGTON — A Nobel Prize winner's experiment suggests that how you teach is more important than who does the teaching — especially when it involves a large college physics class.

The study was led by 2001 Nobel laureate and physicist Carl Wieman who is now a science adviser to President Barack Obama.

He found that students learned a lot more from grad student-instructors using interactive tools than they did from a highly-rated veteran professor giving a traditional lecture.

The study was done at the University of British Columbia and appears online Thursday in the journal Science. □

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Obama habla a favor de indocumentados



El presidente Barack Obama saluda a miembros de la audiencia después de hablar en el Desayuno Nacional de Oración Hispana el jueves 12 de mayo de 2011, en Washington DC. (Foto AP/Charles Dharapak)

Por Por JULIE PACE
Associated Press

WASHINGTON - El presidente Barack Obama dijo el jueves que quienes se oponen a permitir que millones de indocumentados consigan la ciudadanía no deben olvidar que Estados Unidos se inició como una nación de inmigrantes. En un discurso durante el desayuno anual de oración

hispana en Washington DC, Obama recordó también partes de la historia nacional, cuando las comunidades religiosas ayudaron a darle forma al país. Obama habló de los episcopales en Boston —donde los primeros patriotas planearon la Revolución— y de las iglesias bautistas del sur, que detonaron el movimiento de los derechos civiles.

El presidente dijo que seguirá presionando en el tema de los inmigrantes sin papeles y que tratará de trabajar con el Congreso sobre el asunto. Dijo una vez más que la construcción de un movimiento generalizado a favor de la legalización de los indocumentados es la única manera de conseguir una reforma integral del sistema de inmigración. □

Con unos 60 eventos

Celebran el Bicentenario de la Independencia en Paraguay

Con unos 60 eventos que tendrán su punto culminante este sábado y domingo, Paraguay celebra el bicentenario de su independencia el 14 y 15 de mayo de 1811, acontecimiento que tendrá como invitados especiales a los presidentes de Argentina, Brasil, Uruguay y Bolivia.

Los presidentes Cristina Fernández de Argentina, Dilma Rouseff de Brasil, Evo Morales de Bolivia y José Mujica de Uruguay, confirmaron su presencia para los actos oficiales.

A ellos se agregan los vicepresidentes Vicent C. Siew de China (Taiwán) y Gladys Bejerano de Cuba, así como 41 delegaciones de países de las Américas, de Europa y Asia que ya comenzaron a arribar a Asunción desde el miércoles.

Miles de jóvenes estudiantes de primaria y secundaria del área metropolitana de Asunción se concentraron el jueves en Campo Grande, adyacente al aeropuerto internacional "Silvio Pettrossi", para desarrollar actividades artísticas.

El presidente paraguayo, Fernando Lugo, pronunciará el 14 de mayo un discurso durante la habilitación del Patio del Bicentenario en la Casa Independencia.

A ese acto seguirá un tedeum en la Catedral, un desfile militar y un encuentro social con los invitados en el Palacio de López, la sede gubernativa. Los principales edificios públicos, calles y avenidas fueron repintadas y engalanadas por una multitud de banderas patrias.

Una multitud se reunió hoy frente al Panteón de los Héroes para observar la inauguración del edificio restaurado, que alberga a los principales Próceres de la patria.

El acontecimiento fue matizado por bailes y cantos folclóricos, amenizado por la orquesta sinfónica nacional y la Banda de la Marina.

Desde el último fin de semana, se llevan a cabo diariamente actos culturales en la capital y las principales urbes del país.

Fuegos artificiales en el Panteón de los Héroes en Asunción, el 11 de mayo de 2011

Con unos 60 eventos que tendrán su punto culminante este sábado y domingo, Paraguay celebra el bicentenario de su independencia el 14 y 15 de mayo de 1811, acontecimiento que tendrá como invitados especiales a los presidentes de Argentina, Brasil, Uruguay y Bolivia. □

Colombia: acusan a 9 militares por homicidio de 5 civiles

BOGOTÁ - La Fiscalía acusó a nueve militares y tres civiles por el asesinato hace seis años de cinco personas que fueron presentados falsamente como guerrilleros abatidos en combate por la fuerza pública, se informó el jueves oficialmente.

A través de un comunicado publicado en su página de Internet, la Fiscalía General de la Nación dijo que la decisión fue adoptada por un fiscal de la Unidad Nacional de Derechos Humanos, que encontró a los 12 acusados como posibles autores de los delitos de homicidio y secuestro, entre otros. "La investigación se remonta a lo ocurrido el 21 de febrero de 2005, cuando tropas de la Compañía Arco del Batallón de Contraguerrillas (del Ejército)... sostuvieron (un supuesto) contacto armado con un grupo de las FARC" en zona rural del municipio de Miraflores, departamento de Guaviare, 440 kilómetros al sureste de Bogotá, explicó el ente investigador en el boletín de prensa.

Agregó que "en el supuesto combate fueron muertas cinco personas a quienes, según los reportes castrenses, les encontraron un fusil, dos escopetas, una carabina, cinco revólveres, una pistola, un radio y munición de diferente calibre". Sin embargo, "el material probatorio recaudado permitió al fiscal instructor desestimar la ocurrencia de choque armado y establecer que las cinco personas, cuatro de ellas no identificadas, fueron convocadas por un oficial del Ejército a una reunión, tras lo cual se produce el mencionado combate". Es decir, las víctimas no eran rebeldes de las Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia (FARC).

Los afectados con la resolución de acusación son el capitán César Fajardo, el subteniente Robinson Arneth Collazos, el sargento viceprimero Huberney Conta, seis soldados profesionales, un ex soldado, un taxista y un vigilante privado. Los militares están detenidos en guarniciones militares. □



Fuegos artificiales en el Panteón de los Héroes en Asunción, el 11 de mayo de 2011. Con unos 60 eventos que tendrán su punto culminante este sábado y domingo, Paraguay celebra el bicentenario de su independencia el 14 y 15 de mayo de 1811, acontecimiento que tendrá como invitados especiales a los presidentes de Argentina, Brasil, Uruguay y Bolivia.



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